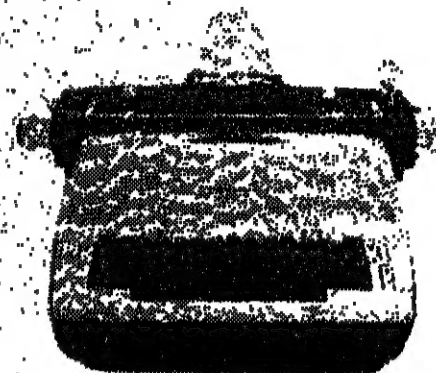


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A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Berlin settlement essential for Bonn's detente policies



Slowly but surely the Four-Power talks on Berlin are making progress, chief Soviet delegate Pyotr Abrassimov gave the Press to understand after the last round of talks, the sixteenth.

It depends on the interests and temperament of the individual which of the two attributes is emphasised. The Americans prefer to stress the protracted nature of the negotiations. They have yet to register measurable progress.

The Bonn Federal government, on the other hand, is as optimistic as ever. Of late it has even been sure that a settlement will have been arranged by this autumn.

Bonn has even committed itself to a deadline, compensation for road haulage having to wait at the border to end from Berlin being due to cease as of 30 September.

By then, the Federal government evidently feels, the Allies ought to have reached agreement on the basic outlines of an agreement that will put an end to pressure on access routes to and from West Berlin.

Only recently Chancellor Brandt, election campaigning in Schleswig-Holstein, avoided committing himself on this point but in Bonn State Secretary Ahlers has now made the announcement.

There is, of course, every reason to be

East Berlin is clearly also convinced that agreement is slowly but surely being reached between the four ambassadors and is intervening as soon as possible in order to salvage as much as possible of its concept of West Berlin as an independent political unit by means of direct negotiations now with West Berlin Senate.

The Federal government and the Senate cannot, of course, oblige. Whatever happens they must await the outcome of the Four-Power talks. Only temporary arrangements such as entry-permits for West Berliners over Easter can be agreed in the meantime.

This likewise applies to the current talks between State Secretaries Egon Bahr and Michael Kohl. They too are to be understood as an accompaniment to and consequence of the Berlin talks and are making such good progress that it looks as though the great powers will reach agreement on Berlin before very long.

For the first time since the end of the Berlin blockade serious negotiations over an improvement of the situation are, Willy Brandt says, taking place. He is quite right and it is indeed promising.

This is not to say anything about deadlines, though. East Berlin will continue to employ every means at its command to link up this agreement with some form of international upgrading for itself - UN membership for both German states, for instance.

There can still be no certainty as to whether or not current Soviet willingness to negotiate represents a permanent change in approach and will, sooner or later, lead to easier relations between the two Germanies.

The Polish unrest lent added weight to mistrust in Moscow as warnings of alleged Social Democratic subversion in the Eastern Bloc have shown. A clearer light will not be shed on the situation until the Soviet Communist Party congress in Moscow at the end of this month.

So it is inept of the Federal govern-



SPD win in Berlin

Klaus Schütz, Mayor of West Berlin, with his wife Heidi at the West Berlin polls. A new city council was elected on 14 March. The Social Democrats with 50.5 per cent of the vote just succeeded in maintaining their absolute majority. The Christian Democratic vote increased from 32.0 to 38.2 per cent. The Free Democrats increased their vote from 7.1 to 8.8 per cent. The Socialist Unity Party (SED) was still well under the five percent hurdle with 2.3 per cent of votes cast in its favour. (In 1967 its vote was 2 per cent.) and remains unrepresented on the council. (Photo: dpa)

ment, to say the least, to commit itself to a deadline on which it has no influence.

It was the same with forecasts about ratification of the Moscow Treaty, which has been made dependent on a satisfactory Berlin settlement. Initially all was to be clear by the beginning of this year, then by this spring and now by autumn.

Yet the four ambassadors have so far only met sixteen times. It took 252 sessions before the Austrian Treaty was finalised. Negotiations with the Soviet Union are, when all is said and done, protracted and call for Oriental patience.

This will be the first Four-Power meeting since the end of the war, indeed the first since agreement between the Big Three at Yalta. The Federal government must also reckon with the United States linking it to other focal points of international affairs.

America is certainly not going to allow itself to be pressurised into undue haste

by its allies in Bonn even though it ought to have more understanding of German impatience after years of impotence and inactivity, with Bonn pressing for peacefully negotiated settlements in the interest of the people affected.

Ostpolitik will have its outcome decided over the next few months in Berlin. Herr Brandt recently announced in Tümmendorf. In reality it is the fate of the present government that will be decided now that the Bonn coalition has gone further towards meeting Moscow halfway than any of its predecessors.

This, then, is the deeper-seated reason for haste. The Federal government is waiting for Moscow to make some concessions and the longer it has to wait the stronger its opponents' opposition will grow and the weaker it itself will become.

B. Brügge
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 14 March 1971)

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Career women find it hard going to compete with men

West Berlin elections

Always assuming that observers who attached major importance to the West Berlin local elections were right in so doing the result can only be termed a vote of approval for the country's policy towards the Eastern Bloc.

The Social Democrats may have sustained losses in Berlin but their retention of an absolute majority on the city council is definitely due to the unerring policy they have pursued in the city for more than twenty years.

The SPD lost votes and the Christian Democrats registered substantial gains but neither fact comes as any surprise, having been forecast by virtually all and sundry.



The only real surprise is that the Free Democrats consolidated their position. The Communist SED continues not to merit a mention.

The SPD sustained losses in boroughs where the party had disproportionately high majorities last time. At the same time many people will not have voted Social Democrat because of longstanding dissension and the propaganda campaign of left-wing groups.

By and large, though, the SPD's losses are a normal reaction to the unusually high share of the vote polled in 1967. The party can be more than satisfied at having retained the absolute majority, so obviating the need to form a coalition.

The Christian Democrats' new look in Berlin has obviously paid dividends. The new men at the top have proved an attractive proposition.

In recent months the Free Democrats have campaigned boldly against the SPD's absolute majority. This will not make it any the easier for them to return into the coalition fold with the SPD but in all probability this is what they will be doing.

The SPD would do well to make them an offer. In its position it can afford to forget minor pinpricks.

Wolfgang Fechner
(Hannoversche Presse, 15 March 1971)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS Moscow is a master of deception

DIE WELT

For a country like the Soviet Union foreign policy is invariably either a function or a continuation of home affairs and a result of the ideological and party-political interests of the Soviet Communist Party.

It is only by working on this assumption that a plausible explanation can be provided for the fact that Moscow considers it right to allow shadows to be cast on relations between this country and the Soviet Union.

First there was the war of nerves of interviews and disclaimers, then the chicanery in Berlin, then the toughening of the Soviet attitude at the Salt talks. All this and much more would be incomprehensible, indeed illogical, if the Soviet Union were a conventional great power.

Has not many a Soviet hope been fulfilled of late in respect of this country? Was not the erosion of public opinion under the Brandt government making considerable progress? In the theory the Soviet Union need only have continued the soft approach to Bonn for a few months more to achieve at least psychological success.

Was not the Brandt-Scheel government the ideal coalition in Bonn as far as Moscow was concerned? Why should the Kremlin change its tune? What reason is there for angry comments that Moscow has been misled by Willy Brandt who has failed to keep his promises? How seriously are the subsequent denials meant?

Disregarding for a moment subjective factors (there can, for instance, be no way of knowing how the Soviet side understood State Secretary Egon Bahr's statements of intent and marginal comments) a problem that the signatories of the Moscow Treaty wrongly assessed remains. It is that of the situation in the Eastern Bloc and within the Soviet Union.

It is nothing new for Moscow's policy to appear two-faced, when all is said and done. There are two faces to Soviet policy and this is the case because it is faced with a problem fraught with contradictions.

On the one hand Moscow must strive to expand according to the dynamic of Communist teachings and in line with its world power potential. On the other it must, in view of experiences over the last few decades, take continual care to ensure that its internal line and bloc cohesion are not jeopardised.

From Moscow's point of view the treaty with Bonn was undoubtedly part of its policy of expansion, expansion not necessarily meaning tanks on the move or a communist take-over of power.

This country being in Moscow's eyes the most serious partner and protagonist in continental Europe it would initially have been enough to neutralise Bonn politically and psychologically. This alone would have changed the balance of power not only in Europe but in the world as a whole.

To continue along Moscow's line of thought America would in the long run be ejected from Western Europe. Taken together with power changes in the Eastern Mediterranean this would have meant the emergence of an entirely new situation.

Those of the Soviet leaders who were working along these lines could not have

foreseen that dramatic domestic problems were to beset the Soviet empire within a short space of time.

In December 1970, shortly after Chancellor Brandt's visit to Warsaw, there were uprisings in Danzig, Gdynia and Stettin.

The Soviet Union may well have believed that after the draconian measures resorted to in Czechoslovakia peace and quiet (and with them foreign policy leeway) were assured for many years within the Eastern Bloc.

Instead it transpired that the intervals between one uprising and the next are growing increasingly shorter. There was East Berlin in 1953, Poland and Hungary in 1956, Prague in 1968 and now, in 1970, Poland again.

The Kremlin was clearly faced with the possibility of unrest spreading to neighbouring GDR and maybe even to parts of the Soviet Union itself.

This time the rebels achieved something that had never before proved lastingly possible in a Communist country. From outside the Party machine they forced the country's Party leader to resign. What is more, Wladyslaw Gomulka is a man who enjoyed the full confidence of the Soviet Union.

At the same time his successor, Edward Giersek, was persuaded to negotiate with the spokesmen of the striking workers. When the dockers refused to go to Warsaw, First Secretary Giersek went to Stettin. This too was a symbolic act the long-term repercussions of which can only be guessed at.

With confusion at home and further complications and uprisings on the cards it is not advisable to launch a major offensive with the aim of embracing outsiders.

Indeed the Social Democratic other side, which was to be exploited as a lever against the West German bourgeoisie and American imperialism, now itself becomes something of a problem.

Moscow changed its tune to match the changed situation and aimed broadsides at Social Democracy, which, it claimed, was no more than an agent and lackey of the bourgeoisie.

This no doubt accounts for Moscow's sudden interest in the Christian Democrats and a "bourgeois" government that has confirmed all unilateral concessions so far made by Willy Brandt and would, as it were, take them over, so - Moscow no doubt hopes - leaving Bonn with an administration both combining the benefits of Social Democratic policy and

Continued on page 4

EEC in need of new political guidelines

The Six are having trouble again. In the course of a month differences have come to light that could, after a period of brinkmanship, lead to a disastrous crisis.

A number of discordant notes have clouded the atmosphere within the European European Community (EEC) of late: - France has lodged objections to the Werner Plan proposals for an economic and monetary union.

- Opinions have differed as to an increase in farm prices and the implementation of structural measures in agriculture.

- President Pompidou of France has advocated the establishment of a European Confederation.

- France has insisted on retention of the Rome Treaty specification that decisions must be unanimous.

- There has been a clash with the United States over the Six's protectionist agricultural and trade policy.

- Details of Britain's entry negotiations have also worn down tempers and eroded good will.

Doubts on Soviet readiness to limit arms production

At first glance the military might of the United States appears to be declining step by step in relation to that of the Soviet Union.

Ten years ago Washington threatened massive retaliation. In the late sixties flexible defence was the catchphrase. Now Defence Secretary Laird has arrived at the even more modest term "realistic deterrence."

In reality, of course, the United States has made every effort to prevent the Soviet Union from gaining military superiority.

In the strategic weapons sector at least America has, by introducing MIRV warheads for its long-range rockets at the right moment, retained a clear advantage even though Washington claims officially to be satisfied with level-pegging in the arms race.

The new defence programme submitted to Congress by Mr Laird also includes a major step towards the development of an anti-missile system.

It is not for nothing that the US government has requested Congress per-

Berlin is not detente cornerstone

The outcome of Ostpolitik will be decided in Berlin," Willy Brandt recently stated in the divided city. Yet only last August the selfsame Willy Brandt, commenting on the euphoria that accompanied signature of the treaty with Moscow, was heard to ask people not to make such a song and dance about it.

Berlin is not the eye of the needle through which the Moscow Treaty and policy towards the Eastern Bloc must pass. The Chancellor himself has repeatedly come out against styling Berlin a test case or yardstick.

He ought to stand by this attitude too, even though an election campaign may be in progress in West Berlin and even though he may feel that the Four-Power talks on Berlin are no longer likely to prove a failure.

There can be no doubt about the connection between detente in Berlin and relaxation of tension in Europe as a whole. According to reports from the

Even at its most critical periods the EEC never had to face such a comprehensive catalogue of difficulties. Never before has there been so much tension beneath the surface. It came to the crunch in a matter of days and trouble could recur hourly.

France's latest inclination to favour majority decisions, which runs counter to the provisions of the Treaty of Rome, holds forth gloomy prospects for the Six. How on earth are decisions to be reached by a ten-member EEC, always presuming one materialises in a couple of years' time?

How, in the circumstances, does the EEC visualise its future? Decisions in principle have been made to implement the resolutions adopted at the December 1969 Hague summit but now it is a matter of details national differences have again come to light and confusion reigns.

Who is to be the pacemaker of progress? The Ministers no longer have a suitable concept at the ready. They are waiting in hope. The EEC Commission in Brussels is also waiting for a further summit conference of EEC premiers and heads of state to outline new political directions.

Helmut J. Weland

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 11 March 1971)

mission to go ahead with two new defence projects shortly before assumption of the strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union.

Moscow will get the message. An agreement is soon forthcoming at the talks America plans to go ahead with its missile defence programme.

Unless some agreement is reached between the two the arms race, which already reached proportions that go beyond the comprehension of the man in the street, will continue ad infinitum.

Any such agreement, though, is one of the most important decisions the US government has reached. It includes not only anti-missile missiles, also strategic weapons, a limitation on the number of offensive weapons, that Washington seems of late to be considering whether it might not be wise to limit numbers to the present level, destroying not a single missile of head.

Yet much though Mankind may that one of these days there will be a ban on the development of weapons but also a reduction in number of existing ones there is reason to wonder whether the United States will be prepared to accept a limitation of its arms potential when it even prepared to agree to a restriction of numbers.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 10 March)

POLITICS

Barzel and Schröder contenders for chancellorship candidature



Gerhard Schröder

(Photos: J.H. Darchinger)

Gerhard Schröder has announced his claim to the candidature for Chancellor publicly and unequivocally. For the continually reminded, particularly Christian Democrats the field has now been narrowed down to two - Schröder and Rainer Barzel.

These are the two names that remain from all the many candidates. The rest have faded into insignificance.

It is no surprise that Gerhard Schröder has stepped into the ring to challenge the favourite. He has always considered himself a pretender to the office of Head of State. What is surprising is the earliness with which he has got in his claim.

This has come before the CDU's party discussions, which the leadership has said should begin when the provincial assembly elections are over. It has also come before other challengers have been able to voice their claim.

Obviously Gerhard Schröder feels the time has come to halt Rainer Barzel's bid for candidature for the Chancellorship. In fact the chances of Barzel, who has the most politically effective place in the CDU/CSU in his capacity as leader of the

Opposition, have increased all the more as the number of other candidates increased.

The danger that Barzel's application for the candidature could quickly become an uncontested matter-of-course has obviously influenced Gerhard Schröder in his decision more than the fear that his own prospects might be diminished.

The principle of democratic competition is enhanced if the choice of candidates is not restricted to just one suitable man. But the most significant thing about Schröder's move is that it has not been made for personal reasons alone, but is also part of a programme and at least creates a tactical alternative.

Whereas Rainer Barzel and Franz Josef Strauss seemed to have teamed up to launch total confrontation with the SPD/FDP coalition government, Gerhard Schröder said as long ago as last autumn: "It is important that the Opposition should not steer a collision course against the feeling of fairness that is widespread among the general public."

Whereas Rainer Barzel is opening up the gap between the government and Opposition on Ostpolitik ever wider with more and more demands Gerhard Schröder has not left anyone in doubt that he approves the basic intention of the government's East Bloc policies. He only casts doubt on the methods employed and the speed with which they are being carried out.

Behind all this there is the obvious fact that even if the CDU/CSU returned to power they could not undo what Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel have achieved. Precisely for this reason the alliance with Helmut Kohl for which Schröder seems to be striving appears all the more surprising. He has recommended Kohl for the post of party chairman.

Helmut Kohl is another politician who is not in favour of opposition for opposition's sake. In his election campaign in the Rhineland Palatinate he is trying to put over the aims of the government in Mainz in a matter-of-fact way without laying too much emphasis on differences of opinion with the SPD and FDP.

Anyone who has made a comparative study of the original CDU campaign programme drawn up under Kohl's aegis



Rainer Barzel

and the version that was passed by the Federal state elections and showed that the NPD was not a party they could vote for. This trend will be confirmed this year at the elections in Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein.

A successful alliance between Gerhard Schröder and Helmut Kohl would put the controversy about East Bloc and German policies on more rational lines.

Certainly the first place in which Gerhard Schröder must win ground is his own camp. The parliamentary party has been upset by the way he has kept a stubborn silence in the Bundestag so far and has outlined his position in interviews outside the Bundestag instead.

His popularity in public opinion polls seems to vary in inverse proportion to his following in the parliamentary party. Ideas of making the chancellor, or the candidate for chancellor, quite separate from the party chairman have so far found little favour.

Finally it is by no means certain for whom Strauss and the CSU will give the thumbs-up and for whom the thumbs-down in the end, even though they are firmly on the side of Rainer Barzel at the moment. Schröder has taken a risk.

Nevertheless his pretension to the Chancellorship has offered an alternative and in part a contrasting manifesto. It seemed that Barzel was the unchallenged champion, but now a duel is certain.

Carl-Christian Kaiser
(DIE ZEIT, 12 March 1971)

Bavarian Free Democrats elect Josef Ertl with large majority

No surprises in Nuremberg! Much more decisively than expected in many quarters the Bavarian Free Democrats voted their acting state Chairman Josef Ertl firmly into his position and elected his opponent, Herr Letz, as deputy.

This decisive vote came as a result of Ertl's trustworthiness and as recognition of his achievements as a minister in Bonn, as a mask of respect for his loyalty to the party despite the fact that it has not always taken courses he approves and with an eye on the voters, too.

Josef Ertl and the party leadership in Bonn can be well satisfied with the results of the vote in Nuremberg.

At the same time the decision may have come as a blow to many delegates. Despite his loyalty to the party there is overlooking the fact that Josef Ertl remained at the bottom of his heart a national liberal, a minority group in the Walter Scheel style/FDP.

Viewed in this light Josef Ertl can



Josef Ertl

(Photo: Berliner Ausstellungen)

scarcely be said to represent his party. In addition to this his election has not satisfied those Free Democrats who consider that the conversion of their party is not yet complete and have in mind a social-liberal reform party which can act with less bias and less dogmatically than the Social Democrats.

There is some doubt whether Josef Ertl will be capable of giving the Bavarian FDP a social-liberal character since it has always been in the past somewhere more conservative than other liberal organisations in the Federal states.

On the other hand Ertl is respected for the way in which he always recognises majority decisions. Since the leadership of the Bavarian FDP - unlike Ertl's advisers and circle of friends - is filled with people who are among the progressive group the Bavarian FDP will scarcely be able to alter its course but will at the most be able to slow down the tempo.

Josef Ertl's popularity and his efforts to unite national liberals could be of some value for this course.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 March 1971)

NPD face ruin

The National Democratic Party (NPD) is approaching its end. A ban on it, as recently demanded once again by Heinz Kühn, the Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, is no longer necessary.

The NPD is dying, slowly but surely. And its leader, Adolf von Thadden who has already experienced the end of so many extreme right-wing parties, knows it. Too many scandals and heavy defeats have destroyed his hope of forming a stable right-wing party from the NPD. As he has never learnt a trade, he is however only left with the choice of attempting this again and again.

His decline began in 1969. After incidents involving his pugnacious stewards in Frankfurt and his gun-happy bodyguard in Kassel he met with heavy defeat in the Bundestag elections.

In 1970 too people gave their verdict at the Federal state elections and showed that the NPD was not a party they could vote for. This trend will be confirmed this year at the elections in Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein.

This time too scandals have helped to ruin the party even more. There have been the incidents involving the NPD-controlled Aktion Widerstand, the trial of Ekkehard Weill in Berlin for the attempted murder incited by Widerstand slogans of a Russian soldier guarding the Soviet War Memorial, the attack on the Russian embassy in which NPD members were involved and the discovery of an arsenal of weapons in North Rhine-Westphalia together with the subsequent arrest of a number of National Democrats. Thadden's party is suspected more and more of being a group of political criminals.

To save what was left, the executive twice within a month called upon the faithful to be disciplined and vigilant. It fervently warned them to be more considered in their actions, to have stronger nerves and to show self-control and self-confidence. "Revolutionary behaviour," the executive stated, "appears ridiculous and repulsive."

Articles in this vein have been appearing week after week in the party newspaper Deutsche Nachrichten.

In a front-page article headlined "The NPD sticks to its course" party leader von Thadden himself attacked what he described as hotheads and outsiders though he did not rule out that the "necessary defensive measures taken to protect a party that was faithful to the State could affect an innocent person."

Adolf von Thadden has every reason to fear those forces he once summoned. Among the party's young extremists and his right-wing auxiliaries in Aktion Widerstand there is growing displeasure about the "tame functionaries" and "old men" at the head of the party. They are sick of speeches, they want a hullabaloo and do not even shrink from using violence.

Thadden's party spokesman Richard recently wrote, "Show the youth a better world, acquaint them with their own people, teach them to love Germany and give the homeless their fatherland back. That is the credo of our age. To work!" This appeal is directed to the party itself. It planned extremism to its banner and is now going to rack and ruin because of it.

Adolf von Thadden can no longer lead his forlorn band of men, he can only lament his fate or chase phantoms. In a recent appeal to his comrades in arms he wrote, "It is the task of the NPD to do everything in its power to help replace the present Bundestag majority by 1973 at the latest by a majority that will halt or reverse with all the means at its disposal the present policy of capitulation."

If appearances are not deceptive, there will be no NPD in 1973. Thadden's end is in sight.

Dietrich Strothmann
(DIE ZEIT, 5 March 1971)

■ INTER GERMAN RELATIONS

Young people face different lives in the two parts of Germany

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The Freie Deutsche Jugend (Free German Youth), the German Democratic Republic's youth organisation, celebrated its 25th anniversary on 7 March 1971.

At the end of July 1945 Marshal Zhukov of the Red Army ordered the establishment of youth committees in the Soviet Zone composed of the "most active and anti-Fascist boys and girls".

But it was not until 7 March 1946 that the Free German Youth was set up simultaneously in East Berlin, Saxony, Mecklenburg, Thuringia, Brandenburg, Anhalt and Lower Pomerania, heralded by an intense wave of propaganda.

Erich Honecker was made the organisation's first chairman. He has long been considered now to be a possible successor to Walter Ulbricht.

Since the Free German Youth (FDJ) was set up a quarter of a century ago a new generation has grown up in both parts of Germany that knows of Germany as a united country only from hearsay.

Young people on both sides of the inner-German demarcation line have been subject to extremely different influences. Between the Elbe and the Oder rivers the FDJ began to impress political ideology on the minds of the generation of tomorrow and, as Erich Honecker has stated, "accepted the guidance of Socialist Unity Party resolutions and advice".

The climax of this education and indoctrination was "to achieve the absorption of young people into the ranks of the party of the working class".

The Youth Law passed by the People's Chamber claims that the State and the younger generation have common interests and aims for the first time in German history.

This development indicates that there is a continually increasing and intellectually more and more far-reaching estrangement between young people in the German Democratic Republic and young people in the Federal Republic.

But there are fortunately related features in the conduct of young people in both parts of Germany as well as similarities in the aims of youth policy.

The leisure-time activities of young people either side of the Elbe-Werra line are similar. Fourteen to 25-year-olds are thought of as an unruly generation in both countries.

There are special laws to protect the young in both the GDR and the Federal Republic. Judges and psychologists in both parts of Germany are trying to come to terms with the problems of crime amongst the young.

Finally, eighteen-year-olds in both countries are allowed to vote and the younger generation is encouraged to meet the youth of other countries.

But the standpoint of young people in the GDR is completely different to that of the younger generation in the Federal Republic.

While not even a quarter of the young people in the Federal Republic have joined the various State, semi-private, political or Church organisations, sixty per cent of the younger generation in the GDR are members of the FDJ or the Thälmann Pioneers, a connected organisation.

In the Federal Republic participation in youth work fixed or even backed by the State plays no more than a subordinate role in a person's future life. In the GDR

membership of the FDJ is practically an essential qualification for getting on in professional life.

The one astonishing thing is that young people in the GDR tried to go their own way, at least until the Berlin Wall was built. The high proportion of young people among refugees - as much as 49.4 per cent at times - offers clear proof of this.

This picture has admittedly changed since 1961. Young people in the GDR can no longer, to quote Lenin, vote with their feet. They have to come to terms with their regime if they do not want to commit political suicide.

In coming to terms they are however given a number of concessions. They have cheap holiday tours, "dances, games and music that," to quote the *Junge Generation* periodical, "are often more effective and lasting than a lecture".

These help to sweeten the pill of political aims for the young people. There is also the dangerous responsibility involved in FDJ campaigns against loafers in factories, in shooting practice in manoeuvres with the National People's Army and in the hunt for "frontier-breakers" in the border areas of the GDR.

Outwardly, there are certainly striking differences compared with young people in the Federal Republic. But these are only the exception and no more than the abuses of politically dictated youth work.

The more far-reaching and politically effective differences are to be found elsewhere. The age of majority begins at eighteen in the GDR, compared with 21 in the Federal Republic.

The number of young people on parliamentary committees is considerably higher in the GDR than here in the Federal Republic as they are determined by precise regulations. The FDJ sends 35 of its members into the GDR's People's Chamber as fully privileged deputies.

So as some comparison can be made, only 62 members of the Bundestag belong to the 25 to 40 age range while the figure for the People's Chamber is 230. This must result in young people in the GDR being more self-confident and showing this visibly.

Young people working in the GDR have an effective right of participation in

decision-making to a certain extent and so far as social interests are concerned. In the Federal Republic young people are only given this right to a modest extent.

In the sphere of competition and increased productivity young people in the Federal Republic can rely on private or semi-private initiative.

In the GDR socialist youth collectives work according to the motto of "the collective is everything, the individual nothing", aim at considerable increases in productivity and often really achieve them. But the drawback of this system is that all individuality is forced right into the background.

On the other hand, young people in the GDR who accept the political guidelines or at least do not violate them can rise to the highest offices and positions that remain closed to their counterparts in the Federal Republic.

It is no rarity in the GDR to find young people scarcely 25 years old holding down jobs such as factory director, mayor or headmaster.

To sum up, youth is a firmly outlined quantity in the political calculations of the Socialist Unity Party (SED). In the Federal Republic young people are influenced and persuaded from various sides and positions, though without being subject to compulsion. The future will show whether young people in the Federal Republic know how to pay this high price of freedom and personal independence.

But it seems equally uncertain, up to now at any rate, whether the SED's political calculations will bear fruit or whether Albert Norden's declaration of 1955 still applies: "The majority of young people are convinced that they can have no influence on the activities of the FDJ as everything is determined from above and as people expressing different views are looked upon and treated with mistrust."

A quarter of a century after the foundation of the FDJ the political lots for the favour and future of German youth in the GDR and the Federal Republic have still not been drawn.

Hans-Ulrich Engel
(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 5 March 1971)

Bonn takes bold line on American radio stations



Attacks from East Bloc countries on American radio stations in Munich were blown up out of all proportion by scaremongers in this country.

The stations are *Radio Free Europe*, broadcasting to the Warsaw Pact countries, and *Radio Liberty*, beamed at the countries of the Soviet Union and broadcasting in their languages.

East Bloc régimes had seen an opportunity of making capital out of the forthcoming Olympic Games in Munich to attack these two stations which have always been a thorn in their flesh.

Obviously Moscow, Warsaw, Prague and all other communist capitals were unable to do anything about these stations of they would just be confirming the significance of the American broadcasts.

However, all that was needed was a press campaign of two to cast doubt on

the future of the two American radio stations in Munich. Bonn has now dispelled all this uncertainty. In future the stations' broadcasting licences will not have to be renewed once a year, but will be extended automatically.

President Nixon has almost certainly played a part in this decision in that he has called for the financial support for *Radio Free Europe* and *Radio Liberty* to be provided without the help of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Brandt government's bold decision not to take the easy way out and knuckle under to communist threats to boycott the Olympic Games next year deserves praise. Bonn has guaranteed the basic rights of people in this country to liberty and freedom of speech, to inform themselves and to inform other people.

But the greater the tact shown by the stations in question and the more they respect their host country, the greater will be the circle of people who value their purpose, namely to spread the truth.

(Münchener Merkur, 10 March 1971)

British court condemns We

A British High Court in West Berlin sentenced 21-year-old male Ekkehard Weil to six years for attempted murder of a Russian.

In his final statement to the Court described the crime as politically motivated and necessary. The civil court, using British legal procedure and Federal Republic law, was not swayed by an argument when reaching its verdict.

Weil's immaturity and his poor clean record were taken into account when judgement was passed. But his motivation was not admitted as a mitigating factor. That is to be welcomed because of this the verdict in the case is particularly significant.

Anyone committing an illegal act fringes upon the laws. He must be as any other law-breaker irrespective whether he claims political motives the offence.

The rule that political motivation not be treated as an extenuating factor must of course apply to crimes committed by extreme right-wingers as well as extreme left and anarchists.

But it does seem necessary in this. After all, Luise Rinser, Hans Kist and Carl Amory were not in 1968 when they expressed their first three-year sentences passed at trial of the Frankfurt department.

At the time they wrote an open declaration that the case of a question had been a politically motivated act of ideology and they found sentence too harsh for young idealists.

A State with a democratic, pluralist constitution would be dignified own grave if it were to punish severely those acts of violence or punishable acts that were politically motivated. It would then be seen violence indirectly as a political act and exposing the foundations upon which it is based.

(DIE WELT, 10 March 1971)

Moscow is a master of deception

Continued from page 2

lacking the ideological disadvantages of the party.

At the same time Moscow is special, not only with the confrontation between the major parties in this country but in intensity but also with the position of the Christian Democrats being into pro- and anti-Soviet factions.

The Soviet Union has been a master at confusion and division since Lenin's day. For equally long Soviet leaders have been motivated by an unreasoning fear lest their own split by imperialists, revisionists or ever.

This is why there have been appeals for unity - of the socialist of the working class, of the Party, too is why attention has been directed the home front as soon as difficulties within the socialist ranks have occurred.

One point nevertheless deserves to be in mind. A withdrawal of this kind not by any stretch of the imagination involve surrender of positions occupied. When the invasion of Czechoslovakia cast the Soviet Union poor light the Kremlin waited until signs seemed more favourable.

(DIE WELT, 8 March 1971)

CRIME

The strange case of the kidnapping of Michael Luhmer

A blue BMW 2800 raced through Munich city centre in a snowstorm not even stopping at traffic lights as it headed for the autobahn to Nuremberg.

It was just after eight o'clock on the evening of Friday 26 February and the driver was trying to shake off the police. He managed it too. His pursuers later said that if they had continued the chase after the fast BMW they would have been a danger to other road-users.

The driver of the BMW was travelling fast to save a child's life. He managed that too. Just in time for the popular press to point the four-inch banner headline "Sav-tenuated factor. That is to be welcomed because of this the verdict in the case is particularly significant."

Seven-year-old Michael Luhmer who had been kidnapped four days previously at a carnival procession in Niederbachem near Bonn smiled into the lenses of the press cameramen.

His smile was pale but at least he was in the arms of his mother who had been specially flown to Munich in a Luftwaffe plane.

The second case of kidnapping in the Federal Republic within two months ended for the time being with the return of the victim to his mother.

Two of his colleagues had already failed in their attempts to rescue Michael. The first had waited in vain with a ransom of 200,000 Marks late on a cold night at the place where the child was to be handed over.

The second had bravely, though in vain, offered himself and his secretary as hostages.

Munich lawyer Till Burger took star billing of the case. As a dramatic start to his self-advertisement he took a television crew to the spot where the boy had been

handed over to him and posed before the camera with forefinger raised.

The Michael Luhmer case has revealed that the abominable crime of kidnapping has acquired new rules. It seems to be the latest practice of kidnappers not to blackmail rich parents but, as the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* stated, "local authorities, Federal states and tomorrow perhaps the central government, the taxpayers therefore, through the mediation of lawyers, newspaper editors or anyone who can be contacted by the offenders and be used as a middle-man when it comes to paying the cash."

It has also revealed a completely new relationship between lawyer, police and kidnappers.

58-year-old Till Burger is known to despise the police and at first declined to work with them at all. He did not only shake off the police spies as he travelled to meet the kidnappers.

His services had already begun beforehand. To efface any clues, he swapped the money he had received from the police (after they had noted the numbers) at his bank.

And after he had paid the kidnappers the ransom money and received the child in return at the Hölledau motorway, petrol station he claimed 25,000 Marks as commission which he would donate to *Zufucht* (refuge), a prisoner's welfare association. The chairman and founder of this association is Till Burger.

At the beginning of the week the hero of the moment built up a great underground story. While 15,000 policemen and detectives in the Federal Republic were looking for the kidnappers, lawyer Till Burger was speaking on the telephone with one of them. He refused to tell the

police the number but he did prove more talkative later with pressmen.

The popular *72* reported, "After half an hour the lawyer came out of the telephone booth as pale as death: 'That's incredible. If that's true, it's terrible.'"

He then went on to outline what his mysterious conversation partner had told him. Aktion Riga is an organisation spread throughout the Federal Republic. It was founded after the Bund Deutscher Jugend was banned in 1956 for being neo-Nazi. Seventy per cent of the Army's Officer Academy in Hanover are reported to belong to the organisation.

"What surprised me was the man's calm," Till Burger said. "He mocked the methods used during police investigations and feels absolutely safe. He is either mad or indeed the member of a powerful organisation."

"He promised me that the group would pull off one more sensational job but would kidnap no more children," Burger continued. "He also told me that the organisation had kidnapped Stefan Arnold of Munich. The 25,000 Mark ransom money was, he claimed, paid into a special account for Stefan by a foreign lawyer working in Munich, Michael too would have money put aside for him."

Burger also described the man to the reporters: "He is athletic, young and of above-average intelligence. He likes children a lot. He gave Michael a bag full of toys. I could well imagine him as a young officer."

Burger wrestled with his conscience throughout the night and finally accepted a decision of the lawyers' court of honour that released him from the obligation to remain silent.

That was Monday at noon. Minutes

Lawyer Horst Mahler faces aiding attempted murder charge

Despite all this only journalists jostled for places in the court. There were still places to be had in the public gallery on the first day of the trial.

That must have been depressing for Mahler. As a defence lawyer he had always known how to use the anger felt by the extra-parliamentary opposition. As late as November 1968 the young rebels took to the street on Mahler's

behalf and with their exact stone-throwing had the first real street battle with the police. Today they seem to be giving him the cold shoulder.

Even the Berlin *Extra-Dienst* only gave Mahler half-hearted support. People are now dissociating themselves from his revolutionary tactics. It is no longer violence that is in demand but strict Communist cadre discipline.



later he gave the name of one of the kidnappers to a government agency and Interpol. The wanted man was Jörg-Hagen Roll, a salesman born in 1938 in Frankfurt on the Oder.

Roll was already wanted in Munich for stealing carpets worth 100,000 Marks. His lawyer in this case is the Till Burger organisation. The wanted man was arrested by the police 24 hours later.

When police officials of Munich's special kidnapping squad got to Jörg-Hagen Roll's flat the kidnapper had already fled. It was believed that he could have gone to Berlin or Hamburg.

Three hours beforehand - again as part of Till Burger's customer service - he had been warned that the police might be after him.

What the police had already suspected proved correct a short time later. Roll and his accomplices had also kidnapped five-year-old Stefan Arnold in Munich on 21 December 1970 before releasing him for a ransom of 25,000 Marks.

Stefan Arnold was brought to the scene together with his father. "He recognised the flat right away," police report. The main familiar feature was the picture of the "lady with a bare stomach" that Stefan mentioned after his release. The fact that it was a poster showing a scantily clad man is unimportant. "Roll has homosexual tendencies," the police state.

There is also an explanation for the mysterious engraving on the medallion that Michael was given by the kidnappers. "Odessa No 5313" read the inscription. "Odessa" is an abbreviation for the Organisation of Former SS Members. Roll's father was a member of the SS and was killed in the War. The number is the postal code of Niederbachem.

Everybody made something from the kidnapping of little Michael Luhmer. The kidnappers got 175,000 Marks, lawyer Till Burger is not prepared to return the 25,000 Marks donated by the kidnappers and Michael's parents have pocketed 4,000 Marks from the periodical *Quick* in return for their exclusive story.

Gert Kreyszig
(DIE ZEIT, 5 March 1971)

To guard against misunderstandings concerning this political feud among left-wing groups in Berlin, *Extra-Dienst* writes that no bourgeois journalists and no bourgeois judges should presume to reach a verdict on this clash.

But the trial is concerned with more than extremist intrigues. When Baader was freed a 62-year-old employee of the institute where he had been released on parole to study was critically injured when a bullet entered his liver. The court has to reach a verdict upon a purely criminal act.

Before the court it is not suspicion that counts, nor what has previously appeared in newspapers. The press has already found Mahler guilty. But defendant Mahler does not dispute this.

He remains silent, does not even answer questions concerning his identity and will continue to burden the public prosecutor with the task of proving his guilt. His hope is that the evidence will not be sufficient for the Berlin assize court to reach a verdict.

The two women defendants are in a different position. There are witnesses to testify against them. Their defending counsels will then have to try to unnerve the witnesses and sow the seeds of doubt everywhere.

Proceedings had to be stopped on the first day of the trial as the defence accused the judges and jury of being prejudiced. Because of tactical manoeuvres of this kind the verdict is not expected until the end of April.

Ulrich Eggstein
(CHRIST UND WELT, 5 March 1971)

Horst Mahler, bearded, greets his co-defendant Ingrid Schubert in the Berlin courtroom dock. (Photo: AP)

CINEMA

Festival of David Griffith films presented in Darmstadt

It is all only sixty years old or less but there is as much trouble returning to this era as there would be to return to Elizabethan drama or the early eighteenth century novel."

This sentence is in the preface to a book dedicated to the memory of David Wark Griffith, the American director who first made almost 500 short films and then over thirty full-length features between 1908 and 1931.

The attention that students at Darmstadt Technical College devoted to Griffith did not just illustrate this sentence. It was an act of commemoration.

There is no institute devoted to the study of film history in Hollywood. Like the automobile industry, cinemas are only interested in achieving a quick turnover of their products.

Consumers are not allowed to have a good memory. If they are to take new films seriously they must find the old ones as ridiculous as they appear today in the cinema or on television. Old films are shown as rough copies, speeded up and accompanied by gay music.

Only enthusiasts and a few survivors of those pioneer days, most of them in poverty and clutching to the memory of better days, have worked to get copies of silent films, to transfer them on to suitable celluloid and set up new projectors for the performing speeds of these old films.

Mr John Stone is such an enthusiast. In civilian life he is a curator in Washington but he is at present stationed in Hanau or Aschaffenburg. He has had part of his private film collection sent to him and enjoys showing soldiers old films during weekend leave.

Most of the copies shown at Darmstadt are his. Others came from the Bavarian television service. A few short films have been lent by the Cinemathek in West Berlin. These still have the German

subtitles that they received when shown here before the First World War.

In all, there are eight and a half full-length Griffith films and ten shorts. A larger collection has never been seen in this country before.

People can get only an approximate idea of these films. It would be impossible and absurd to show them as they once were. But the false intimacy of the films must be destroyed. That happens to a certain extent when a film is projected at twelve, sixteen or eighteen frames a second instead of the 24 or 25 frames a second it is shown at in the cinema or on television.

It is only when the film runs at a slow speed that any idea can be gained of the tenderness in the gestures of Lillian Gish or the "small colonel" in *The Birth of a Nation* (1914) when she covers the face of his small sister with a Confederate banner as she sleeps.

People see the silent movies differently if they have some idea of the music that accompanied them. Bertolt Brecht once wrote about the music played in the cinemas of his native Augsburg in a film criticism.

But it takes a great deal of effort to reproduce this music. Mr Stone has done this by giving an old cinema pianist the score for Griffith's *Birth of a Nation* and making a tape of the result.

Our ideas about the black and white frames of old films are as erroneous as our ideas about the marble-like whiteness of Greek statues. When Griffith's main works were made between 1912 and 1925 only colour films were shown in the United States.

A copy of *Intolerance* (1916), reconstructed by Mr Stone from a contemporary copy, could be seen in Darmstadt. The colour changes 207 times during the film. Black is replaced by a dark colour, usually sepia, but blue for night scenes and crimson for dramatic

moments. There are no hard and fast rules. White is often given a pink or yellow hue.

Among the Babylonian scenes in *Intolerance* is one where Belshazzar's beloved sends her lover a white rose across the table in a small cradle drawn by two doves.

When this scene has been viewed in a hue that shimmers unnoticeably between the brown of the print and the yellow of the background, the viewer's opinion of films that are usually only seen in black and white changes.

The truest thing ever said about Griffith is still the sentence from James Agee's obituary written in 1948: "To see his work is to be a witness of the origin of all melody, of the first conscious use of the lever and the wheel, of the first inarticulate sounds to be pieced together into words and sentences, of the birth of an art."

The feeling that something is being born that previously did not exist is provided by the films themselves and not by the viewer's knowledge of the history of the cinema.

The birth of the United States is not only a central theme in *The Birth of a Nation* and *America* (1924) but an experience in the pictures in which their whole genealogy seems to be preserved such as Mathew Brady pictures of the American Civil War which Griffith includes in his reconstruction of the Battle of St Petersburg.

The method of fade-ins and fade-outs that he invented shows what happens when a person's eyes open to take in a landscape or a face for the first time and then close.

Before the "small colonel", Lillian Gish, later his wife, first appears, we see an oval miniature of her in the palm of his hand.

Equally tender and pregnant with expectation are Griffith's close-ups, es-

pecially close-ups of women such as Pickford, Lillian and Dorothy Gish, Marsh, Miriam Cooper and Sweet.

Two of his actresses devoted memoirs to him - Linda Arvidson, *When the Movies Were Young* (1921) and Lillian Gish in *The Movies, Mr Gish and Me* (1929).

He did not invent the close-up, previously claimed. But he was the person to make a camera look at a face. He rarely used close-ups for rhetorical purposes as Eisenstein did.

Eisenstein, in his essay *Dickens*, draws his readers' attention to the fact that, while Americans speak of close-ups, it was not until late German and Russian producers used the term "Grossaufnahme".

This shows that the American translators who are not patronised by a proach a face and look at it. "No light hard to earn their crust. Even good, or even excellent, translators are still working today in the Federal Republic for hourly pay of no more than three Marks. So is this a profession for hard grafters?"

Brno Post (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 March 1971)

Goethe letter sold for 48,000 Marks

A British dealer has just paid 48,000 Marks at J.A. Stargard's auction in Marburg for a poem written by Goethe's hand. The eight-line part of the *Suleika* section of the *östlicher Diwan* and its value was estimated at 25,000 Marks.

Other manuscripts too fetch higher than those estimated. Dated Goethe's signature and valued at 15,000 Marks for 5,200 Marks.

Another lot also went to British letter written by Heinrich Heine during his tour of France fetched 4,700 Marks estimated value had been 2,500 Marks.

The letters of Hugo von Hofmann and Helene von Nostitz fetched 25 Marks instead of the 30,000 Marks expected. The letters of Rainer Rilke to Rudi Nollke also sold at the expected price, fetching 24,000 instead of 25,000 Marks.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 February 1971)

THE ARTS

A translator's lot is not always a happy one

Translators are still reckoned to be auxiliary workers in the literary profession. A translator who is retained by a famous author as his sole translator can achieve fame and fortune, however.

The authorised translators of James Joyce and Federico Garcia Lorca will be the first to confirm this. However, those prolific and well-known author have to work hard to earn their crust.

Even good, or even excellent, translators are still working today in the Federal Republic for hourly pay of no more than three Marks. So is this a profession for hard grafters?

The translators in question are of course literary translators. They are united in the Society of German Language Translators of Literary and Scientific Works.

This organisation is part of the Federal Republic Author's Society (VS) and is a professional association representing 345 members.

Among them are some famous names such as Heinrich Böll and Karl Dedecius, such as Carlo Schmid and Wolfgang Schadewaldt, such as Walter Jens and Eugen Helme or Elmar Tophoven and Helmut M. Bräun, the president of the Society.

It is guaranteed that the work of this society goes out to the world - there are 26 languages in the repertoire of the German-speaking Translators' Association (VDU).

For the publishing houses in this country this Association is a sacred cow, which, on the one hand, must be milked as cheaply as possible, and on the other hand must be kept in the best of health.

Word has got around that the standard of a translation has no small effect on the sales of a book and among readers for publishing houses there is a rumour that the success of Rowohlt Verlag's entertaining best-sellers is due to the excellence of the translations (which, moreover, have been paid for accordingly).

So good translations and good translators are much in demand.

Nevertheless most of the contracts signed by translators give them no part in the success or failure of the book. They are given an overall fee which excludes any claims on further rights.

If a book runs to several editions, it is a massive success as a paperback this is just too bad for the translator. However, the top men in the profession have joined publishing houses as advisers.

Generally speaking they have good contacts with the authors in the language they are translating from or to and are thus able to negotiate very favourable contracts. But these top-flight translators are the exception rather than the rule.

Much more common is the kind of contract that led to what is still the most curious case in the history of German translating. In the thirties Martin Behaim-Schwarzbach was paid a flat thousand Marks to translate an American novel into German. And that is still all he has received for it even though the book was *Gone With the Wind*!

"Now we have lost count of the number of copies of *Vom Winde verweht* that have been sold.

A similar fate befell the translator of the Angélique novels. He has been involved in a test-case trial for the past eleven years hoping to receive a reasonable payment for the best selling books he has translated. The trial continues and no end is yet in sight.

The VDU hopes to bring this sorry state of affairs to an end. For some time

now talks have been in progress on the possibility of drawing up a contract that would set a pattern for the future to ensure that publishing houses pay a fair day's salary for a fair day's work.

Last year this projected norm for contracts was put before the Association of the Federal Republic Book Trade (Börsenverein).

Translators and their legal representative Wilhelm Nordemann have been working on the conditions laid down for cooperation with the *Verlag der Autoren* (the authors' publishing house).

These are conditions that will place a heavy extra burden on publishing houses in this country, but they will for the first time give translators a satisfactory contractual footing.

The main conditions are that the translator will receive a general payment for the first edition of a book (between 180 and 250 Marks for sixteen pages) and further agreements will be negotiated for further printings.

The translator's payment for the first edition of the book must be at least four per cent of the shop price and likewise for further printings.

An extra payment will be made to the translator for additional rights such as film, television and radio broadcasting, and newspaper serialisation rights. In such cases the fee for the translator should be the Utopian sum of 25 per cent of the gross earnings.

Furthermore the translator's rights for the publishing of works should be reconsidered. A translated work must be published at the latest twelve months after the manuscripts have been handed in. If the contract is broken off by mutual agreement the translator should be recompensed almost in full. The risks run by publishing houses with inexperienced translators would therefore be considerably increased.

It hardly needs to be stressed that these demands made by translators are a case of aiming at the heavens and hoping to hit the rooftops.

Nevertheless publishers must reckon with a great deal of thrust and parry if the translators make their claims with the backing of authors and drama translators.

Across the negotiating table from the Börsenverein will be the Federal Republic Authors' Society which also represents the interests of the translators.

An initial round of talks about normal contracts and uniform umbrella agreements between authors and translators on the one hand and publishers on the other is planned for this month.

Manfred Leier
(DIE WELT, 9 March 1971)

DGB offers to represent authors

The Federal Republic Authors' Association and the Confédération of Federal Republic Trades Unions (DGB) plan to work with closer cooperation in future. At their second round of talks in Düsseldorf representatives of both organisations discussed how they could plan cooperative ventures.

One of the items on the agenda was the plan for an *Industriegewerkschaft Kultur* (an arts trade union) that has been mooted before. According to Günter Stephan, a member of the DGB committee, opinions were fairly well agreed that, for the moment at least, there were



(Photo: Archiv)

Oskar Kokoschka celebrates his 85th birthday in Geneva

Oskar Kokoschka has now reached a ripe old age, but like Pablo Picasso, his senior by five years the 85 year-old painter cannot give up painting. Kokoschka's recent works are as controversial as those of Igor Stravinsky and Paul Hindemith and it is even said of Picasso that he is not so good as he used to be!

It is the works of his younger and middle years that have sealed the claim to fame of Oskar Kokoschka.

This erstwhile aggressive Expressionist has come out from behind the barricades. Following his "frightfully modern" early paintings executed in Vienna he came into close contact with the masterpieces of the Venetians, and in particular Tintoretto and grew up into traditional painting at precisely the same time as his contemporaries were growing out of it!

In his best portraits and landscape paintings he has constructed a bridge from the Austrian Baroque to the art of the twentieth century.

It may be that his remarkably suggestive composition of colour tones, a coagulation of colours rather like a tapestry, devoid of almost all graphic elements forming figures and planes is petrified into a kind of mania. But the pictures from his middle period are intuitive reports on his frame of mind.

His landscapes and pictures of towns and cities in Europe, Africa and the Orient give a clear and individual sense of atmosphere and history, so real you can almost smell the air.

Oskar Kokoschka was born on 1 March 1886 at Pöchlarn on the Danube and spent his childhood in Vienna.

He studied at a school for graphic art and the first to benefit from his training were the *Wiener Werkstätten* which set him to work on decorative furniture paintings. He quickly came up in the world and his first decorative designs shocked the Viennese with their expressive boldness.

Greater shocks still were in store when the first of his dramas, which were produced at the same time, made their appearance.

The 21 year-old Kokoschka wrote among others the oft-quoted early Expressionist drama *Mörder, Hoffnung der Frauen* (Murder, Hope of Women), which was taken by Paul Hindemith as the libretto for his opera of the same name (1921). At the time this was another cause for protest.

"O.K." as he is known remained a poetic painter all along and illustrated his own literary works. Among his friends in those early days in Vienna was Karl Kraus, of whom O.K. painted a fascinating portrait.

Moving on to Berlin Kokoschka worked alongside Herwarth Walden on *Sturm* and in 1910 signed his first contract with the Paul Cassirer Gallery.

Nine years later he became a professor at the Dresden Academy, but he was such a turbulent character that he became impatient in this post and quit after five years.

The temperamental artist, stricken with wanderlust, spent many years roaming Europe and the Orient. He even set his easel up in the Sahara Desert.

During the Third Reich about four hundred of his pictures on public exhibition in Germany were removed and in 1938 he fled to Britain where he stayed until 1953 when he moved to Villeneuve on Lake Geneva. He is still living and working there today.

At Salzburg each summer young artists wishing to learn "how to see properly again" flocked to meet the distinguished artist.

Oskar Kokoschka is one of the few internationally recognised "concrete" painters. His paintings fetch high prices. For his 85th birthday an exhibition of numerous Kokoschka oil-paintings and water-colours has been arranged in Schloss Belvedere. These come from public and private collections.

H. Lehmann
(Kleiner Nachrichten, 27 February 1971)

Film distributors in this country face a mounting crisis

Constantin can do it. Along with the commercial products to be seen in the Federal Republic at present this clever distribution company is making good money out of the American underground which is becoming more and more overground.

"Constantin films are successful" is the advertising slogan of this film distributor, the largest in this country and the largest in Europe.

Success here is normally dismissed by the critical public as commercial philistinism. But now even those young film-makers like Alexander Kluge who are normally opposed to the established film firms are glad when Constantin accepts their works.

The young film-makers know as well as anyone that though Constantin films do not always prove successful with the public they are helped along by advertising and an ample number of guaranteed showings.

Constantin has a strong position on this country's cinema market and cinema owners are forced not only to take the films on paper but they must also show them.

Bertelsmann certainly makes more money from other branches of its wide-ranging business than film distribution. Consul Waldfried Barthel, the owner of Constantin, knew what he was doing when he repurchased all his firm's shares that were originally promised to the Bertelsmann organisation. This distribution is financially viable.

In this country's film distribution in-

dustry Constantin is admittedly the exception that proves the rule. This firm is the only large distributor in the Federal Republic.

Ilse Kubaschewski's formerly powerful Gloria Film is still flourishing but the firm has radically reduced the number of films it offers. Gloria no longer risks experiments either.

Inter Distribution did risk experiments that did not seem to be experiments as they had a commercial basis. But it recently went through a crisis period, though thanks to speedy financial action it seems once again to be in the black.

Some small distributors meet with success, others with the lack of it and therefore bankruptcy. Walter Kirchner's film distribution service operates surprisingly successfully.

Kirchner offers films from both home and abroad that have been seen on television or produced in cooperation with television companies. He brings back old films of both artistic and commercial interest. And what's more Kirchner shows the films in his own cinemas so that he is covered financially.

American distributors in this country are worried. MGM and United Artists

have been able to show large profits but equally famous American firms like Universal and Paramount have merged in the Federal Republic to form one distribution firm. Rumours have it that this will not be the last merger of American firms in this country.

On the face of it, film distribution seems to be functioning well. But looking at it more closely, it does not. Some one hundred home-produced films (or coproductions between companies in the Federal Republic and abroad) and 300 to 400 foreign films wish to enter this country's cinema circuit every year.

But distributors just do not have the capacity for such numbers. The Americans rigorously prune their distribution programme, omitting anything that does not seem to be eighty per cent certain of financial success.

The few home-owned distribution firms also tread cautiously, though they do occasionally offer an art film. But there are films that the distributors refuse to take.

This weighs most heavily on modern films made by directors in the Federal Republic. Our young directors must be criticised for often making films without

considering whether the public will see them and for the fact that the view of art is not always other people's view.

Young producers here are now learning to form their own distribution service to bring their films to the public. They are using special cinemas that hope to achieve commercial success from this go-go scheme.

These experiments have been successful in some cases but even running the business themselves young directors are finding difficulties covering production costs.

Film distribution demands a tight ganisation. If our young film-makers incidentally are not all that young years) believe that they can do everything on their own from the original idea up to the distribution, they are wrong.

The artistically ambitious modernists in this country, especially those present audiences with some difficulties need organised distribution.

This could prove successful as long as the modern film-makers are prepared to transfer the business side of their people who have some experience of film distribution industry, even if it means specially setting up a new distribution company.

At present many modern films in this country have their premiere on television. This is a solution but not the only one. As far as distribution is concerned, the modern film industry too needs more help.

Klaus Hebel
(DIE WELT, 4 March 1971)

EDUCATION

Plans to coordinate education meet with little enthusiasm

Hopes for a national educational plan have just been given a serious damper. The aim of this plan is to coordinate for the first time all educational courses in all the Federal states in order to prevent further splintering of the education system and eliminate existing discrepancies.

But the opposite effect now threatens - the division of the education system into two, a Social Democratic and a Christian Democrat one.

The differences over educational reform seemed to have been overcome for the present. But on 1 March they sprang to life again with a violence that surprised all parties.

At a meeting of the educational planning committee on this date the government urged the Federal states to decide unanimously for comprehensive education as the future school system in the Federal Republic.

The SPD-FDP coalition government looks upon comprehensive schooling as a reform worth pursuing. This would end the tripartite structure of the education system - and the separation of pupils into lower, middle and privileged social strata it is accused of - as all ten to sixteen-year-olds would go to the same school.

Supporters of comprehensive schooling also hope that bringing all pupils together and offering a new system of courses would guarantee equal opportunities more than the present system does.

They hope too that the courses would allow more personal treatment and enable decisions concerning a pupil's future

school career to be adjusted without any psychological harm.

The extent to which these expectations would indeed be fulfilled by the comprehensive school, if at all, is disputed. Whatever the case, there is a lack of practical experience.

The education commission of this country's Educational Council put a temporary end to the long years of theoretical dispute in the summer of 1969 by suggesting the introduction of a extensive, experimental programme to assess results.

The education ministers of the Federal states agreed to this proposal at the end of 1969. But the hope that differences could be freed of their ideological ballast proved unfounded.

The government move to establish comprehensive schools as a firm part of the national educational plan cannot be explained by new developments in the educational system.

Instead, the pressure to provide easily recognisable domestic reforms in any sphere seems to have become so strong that the comprehensive school ideologists were given free rein.

The move to fix the results of a scientific experiment from the very onset can only be explained by ideology.

That is the very thing that the Education Council wanted to avoid. They had little experience of the subject in 1969. There was only a handful of comprehensive schools in the Federal Republic.

Experiences abroad could not be applied here easily, especially as the enthusiasm for comprehensive schooling

had begun to slacken noticeably both in Sweden and in individual parts of the Eastern Bloc. Comprehensive systems there had to be modified.

All three political parties strongly advocate a trend to closer cooperation in the education system. Hesitation must not be confused with procrastination. First practical endeavours demand caution. This applies to the problems, well-known to educationalists, of splitting children into small groups and it leads to the considerable difficulties involved in drawing up new syllabuses for the new courses.

Extraordinary effort is therefore needed here though success will not be seen at first. Referring to the subject of syllabus research, the government has often had to admit that it would be years before this could be undertaken.

Work on the educational plan has now come to be seen in a dubious light. The commission composed of representatives of both central government and the Federal states is proving to be an instrument that does not mediate between the Federal states on the one hand and the government on the other but splits the Federal states with the aid of the eleven votes that the government has in the commission and which always prove decisive.

This provokes reactions like that of the Baden-Württemberg representative who stated that, if need be, he and other delegates would disregard their obligations towards the central government.

The Education Ministers Conference demands unanimity on its decisions and resolutions. The politically legitimate and necessary polarisation has always been settled up to now, though laboriously and not always gloriously.

The government is now taking over the role of mediator between the Federal states. The move towards comprehensive schooling shows how carelessly this role can be carried out.

The Social Democrat representatives not only ignored the lack of educational and psychological experiences but also disregarded the financial aspects which, the Education Council has proved beyond any shadow of doubt, are immense.

This type of educational planning thus assumes an obviously declaratory character that hinders necessary reforms instead of encouraging them.

Klaus U. Ebn Meyer
(CHRIST UND WELT, 5 March 1971)



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School-leavers given inadequate career advice

School-leavers with the school-leaving certificate (Abitur) who do not go on to study find themselves in a predicament as there are few chances commensurate to their educational standard.

So far this problem has escaped attention and has not been viewed as a social problem. There are two reasons for this. High school education caters exclusively for those people wanting to university or college and ninety per cent of school-leavers do indeed go further study.

The second reason is that, though number of people with the Abitur is increasing at a fast rate, the figure per cent is still relatively low.

At present it is estimated that some 3,000 school-leavers of both sexes go into industry directly after their school-leaving examinations.

As numbers are so low there is no fear of any great amount of unemployment. The shortage of jobs and career opportunities, from firm and social tension.

Things will however change if the of the Education Council and the government are adopted. Then some fifty per cent of a school year will leave after twelve to thirteen years in preparation of the new "Abitur II" and only of them will start at university.

Twenty-five per cent of school-leavers will be given a good education. But they not want to go on to study and demand suitable opportunities for training.

Expressing it in figures, every year some quarter of a million people with an education that is not usual must find jobs commensurate to their talents.

A discussion at a series of lectures arranged by the Baden-Württemberg of the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft in Stuttgart next showed how poorly prepared the Federal Republic was for the vast numbers expected in a few years time.

Dieter Barth, the business manager of the Eitlinger Kreis, an association of industrialists active in the education sphere, spoke of a survey conducted together with this country's Institute.

Forty-nine firms of different sizes in various branches of industry were covered by the poll. None of these

Continued on page 9

More facilities for dental students

The number of mathematics and science students at universities in the Federal Republic and West Berlin is to be doubled to 100,000 by 1975. There are also to be at least 10,000 places for dental students in five years time.

These proposals were agreed by the central government and the Federal states on the planning committee for university expansion at a meeting in Bonn to discuss the first preliminary plans for university building between 1972 and 1975.

A spokesman for the body said that the framework plan would be ready by 1 July. It will be mainly based on the recommendations the committee was given by the Council of Arts and Science at the end of January.

Hans Leussink, Minister of Education and Science, spoke to the planning committee and emphasised the need to rationalise planning, building and use.

Specifications dealing with space and costs are to be included in the framework plan as a guide. All arts students are to have forty square feet at their disposal.

Construction costs for a department of biochemistry for example have been estimated at 3,600 Marks per square metre according to the May 1970 price index.

Plans to include the building of hostels in the total costs have been dropped. A working party set up by planning committee raised legal questions.

The planning committee has ruled that mathematics, the sciences, engineering and dentistry should be expanded in coming years. This is based on the assumption that the demand for these subjects will increase rapidly.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 March 1971)

Secrets of middle-age examined in Hanover

Research is being carried out into one of the most important periods in a person's life - middle age. The mysteries of fifty-year-olds are to be revealed and the veil of suppositions, half-truths and approved assumptions is to be drawn back.

This basic research of international importance is currently being carried out at Hanover Medical College. Dr Manfred Pflanz, Professor of Epidemiology and Social Medicine and head of the project, hopes to have finished his work and done some light on to the subject in two years time. Some interesting details are already available.

"Ten years ago," Professor Pflanz says, "we would never have dared undertake work of this kind, despite considerable enthusiasm, as we lacked the technical prerequisites."

A lot of work has to be done in order to obtain a representative statement of how healthy middle-aged people are and connected questions of sociological, psychological, medical and biological attitudes and the general behavioural pattern of fifty-year-olds.

More than one and a half million statements must be compared and fitted into context before conclusions can be drawn.

"There will also be special programmes, some of them brought from the United States as we do not want to start from the very beginning. And there will also be some highly efficient technical apparatus."

Specialising in nuclear and general medicine, Hanover Medical College's computer installation is one of the largest computers for medicine to be found in Europe.

The problem sounds simple for laymen but the expert will recognise the complications involved. "A fifty-year-old," Professor Pflanz explains, "already shows clearly signs of wear and tear. He is in a certain border-line situation as he is neither young nor old, neither healthy nor sick."

"It is proposed to establish the medical state of fifty-year-olds and precise information is to be gained about the heart, lungs, blood-vessels, susceptibility to fatty degeneration, rheumatism and mental characteristics."

In 1969 and 1970 Professor Pflanz invited 2,000 fifty-year-old men and women from Hanover to take part in this test, which has been given financial

Continued from page 8

support by this country's Research Community.

Seventy-two per cent turned up for the medical examination and 86 per cent agreed to being interviewed in their homes. The interviews and medical examinations resulted in a collection of more than one and a half million separate data.

Similar methods will be used in ten years time when the fifty-year-olds that have been examined or interviewed in the test reach sixty. Professor Pflanz does not rule out the possibility that a comparison of the two main tests could enable a system of personal forecasts to be developed, thus helping the middle-aged stay healthy.

If his medical data are included and processed in a programme yet to be developed, a fifty-year-old sufferer of chronic bronchitis, circulatory disorders or fatty degeneration who reaches the age of sixty could provide important information for the treatment of similar cases.

In practice this could mean that doctors would be able to help patients reach sixty in a better state of health than they might now.

Professor Pflanz has already met one phenomenon that cannot as yet be explained. He used practically the same methods as those in Hanover, though simpler in form, in 1965 in Ghana and Iran.

Again it was fifty-year-olds who were examined for circulatory complaints, flatulence of the lungs, fatty degeneration, blood-pressure and similar symptoms.

The syndrome (high blood pressure, fatty degeneration, heart infarction) was much worse in these areas though there were few, if any, factors encouraging disease such as particularly great pollution of the environment through effluents as is found in the industrial districts of Europe or practices dangerous to health such as the misuse of alcohol, nicotine or nutrition.

The environmental conditions were far better there on many points. Air and water was pure, there was more physical exercise and food was simpler.

There was another surprise. Examinations of comparable persons in the relatively calm city of Hanover and hectic New York showed that the New Yorkers examined were less nervous.

The analysis of the life and health of fifty-year-olds planned in Hanover will pay special attention to blood pressure and fatty degeneration that is common

hundred per cent of Abitur holders do not stay with them after their training but go on to study.

On the other hand, this problem was not encountered by firms providing suitable positions for Abitur holders after the end of their training period.

It always occurred however where Abitur holders did not have any better chances of promotion than those people who had left secondary modern schools two or three years earlier.

Firms in the technical sphere also organised special training courses for Abitur holders. These are of a high standard and train, for example, engineering assistants and mathematical and technical assistants for the chemical industry.

Industry's growing need of assistants can scarcely be satisfied despite the attractiveness of the training courses as these people are, as their name suggests,

only assistants with little responsibility and few chances of promotion.

And that in the decisive factor. An Allensbach survey found that school-leavers thought an ideal job would be one that would give pleasure through out their working life, would have plenty of variety and allow independent work.

One way out of the dilemma is provided by the sandwich system, a combination of career training or work and university or college study.

Rolf Raddatz, director of the new Federal Institute for Career Training Research in Berlin, told the congress in Stuttgart that further development was also possible in the profession of assistant. The main thing, he said, was that a purposeful system of further training should be built up.

Georg Hartmut Altmüller
(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 2 March 1971)

Fat threatens every other person over forty

Every other person in the Federal Republic aged over forty is threatened by overweight. Diseases of the heart and circulation are the most common complaints caused or at least encouraged by increasing fatty degeneration.

This subject was discussed with the aid of a documentary film in Berlin's Congress Hall during European Heart Week which has just ended.

The belief that obesity had something to do with a disorder of the gland functions is no longer generally confirmed by the results of modern research into the subject.

If a person grows or remains fat he is simply having too much food, however little he may seem to be eating. The real cause is the disparity between the needs of the body and the appetite of the body's owner.

Children should be taught to eat in moderation but today they are still punished by being made to go hungry or rewarded with fattening sweets and candies.

The first layers of fat grow on a child together with the belief that over-eating is good and something worth aiming for.

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 March 1971)

Epilepsy to be researched at Heidelberg

The Volkswagen Foundation has made a grant of about 680,000 Marks spread over a three-year period for examining a cross-section of the children of epileptic parents at Heidelberg University Hospital.

The examinations will take place in the department of paroxysmal diseases at the Neurological University Hospital under Professor Janz and in close cooperation with the paroxysmal out-patients' department of the Heidelberg University Children's Hospital under Professor Scheffner.

The statistical processing will be carried out by the Institute for Documentation, Information and Statistics of the Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg.

Advice on hereditary biology will be given by Heidelberg University's department of anthropology and human genetics. The automatic analysis of the electro-encephalogram will be done by the department of neuro-physiology at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry based in Munich.

Epilepsy, once also called *morbus sacer* or holy disease, is a widespread complaint. It is estimated that there are 300,000 cases of chronic epilepsy in the Federal Republic with eight to ten times that number of persons having an increased susceptibility to the disease. This is manifested at least once during the person's life, mostly in childhood, as an epileptic fit.

As advances in pharmacotherapy have made more and more epileptics "fit for marriage", questions of hereditary factors and advice about this to epileptics have gained increasing importance in practice.

In recent years doctors have been able to differentiate between several forms of epilepsy. As electro-encephalograms too differentiate many of the specific features, it is now possible to examine more exactly the hereditary nature of specific features with the aid of electro-encephalography.

Annual examinations will be made to determine clinically and with the aid of electro-encephalograms the development of specific epileptic features and the results will be compared with those obtained from a control group that has undergone the same examinations.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 February 1971)

■ AGRICULTURE

Farmers up in arms against the bureaucrats in Brussels

DIE ZEIT

When 60,000 farmers marched on Bonn recently and demanded that producer prices for farm produce should be raised by ten per cent many housewives looked on in horror, thinking that this would, if granted, automatically mean an increase in shop prices by the same amount. This is not — or should I say, would not be — the case.

The gap between the prices paid to the producer or manufacturer and the prices paid to the retailer has in our luxury, consumer society, with its mania for packaging, taken on fantastic proportions.

While the price paid by the housewife for bread has all but doubled in the past twenty years the price farmers receive for grain has dropped by ten per cent.

A pamphlet distributed by farmers in Bavaria recently stated: "We farmers at present get 34 Pfennigs for a litre of milk, fourteen Pfennigs for an egg, 97 Pfennigs for a pound of pork, eighty Pfennigs per pound for chickens and five Pfennigs for a pound of potatoes."

Expenses in agriculture — wages to farm-workers, building costs, machinery and maintenance — are rising from year to year. No wonder farmers have been forced to take to the streets and protest. They are not asking for more money for greedy reasons, they are just eager not to be left out of the general upward trend in incomes. In brief they are being discriminated against and they are fed up with it.

Most townspeople do, in their minds at least, discriminate against the agricultural community. Most passers-by cast angry glances if they see a modest Opel or even a humble Volkswagen parked outside a farmhouse. Farmers, it seems, are not supposed to drive cars! Farmers should go on foot and produce their bread "with the sweat of thy brow".

These are the stark facts of what it means to work the land and feed the country: the hours are getting longer, the rewards are getting smaller.

In the government's agricultural report for 1970 it says that the gap between farmer's pay and that for a comparable job in industry is 29 per cent.

For the roughly three million farmers

children do not have equal educational opportunities and even the old-age benefit which was introduced in 1957 is not compulsory. This pension is worth 175 Marks a month to marrieds, 115 Marks for non-marrieds. At the moment more than 500,000 people are having to exist on this starvation pittance.

There are two reasons why our agricultural system has got into this catastrophic state of affairs. The first is the unique nature of the industry, which gasps for breath only once a year. With our hectic and constantly changing economic setup the world of farming seems like an anachronism.

Furthermore in the farming profession production methods are all tried and tested and leave little room for innovation, while in industry many items are interchangeable. For instance the products of the petroleum industry can be used to make items as diverse as car chassis, stockings, swimming-pools and cutlery.

The second reason is based on ignorance, error, misapprehension or a false set of aims and is indicated by the three letters EEC. The originators of the European Economic Community intended that this organisation should achieve the aim of political integration in Europe — an aim that de Gaulle consistently frustrated. Nevertheless the Europeans decided one day in 1962 that of all things they would make agricultural policy the nucleus of integration.

It is important to try to imagine what this signifies. The branch of the economy that lagged far behind was intended to be the motive force that drove the economy on to a stage that was far in advance of the whole organisation. What an idea!

In no other sector are climatic and regional variants of such decisive significance as in agriculture and yet the idea was that a uniformly organised farm-produce market should be created from Flensburg to Sicily in order to demonstrate that a supra-national Europe is possible.

Not content with this it was decided that to give a pretence of reality to the fictitious idea of an agricultural union national agricultural systems should be switched to one unit of currency, the so-called unit of calculation, dollar parity.

This means that when the Federal Republic revalues and for all economic transactions the dollar is only worth 3.60

Marks agriculture goes on reckoning with a four-Mark dollar.

Since then all experts have realised that the communal currency can only be the finishing touch and that first of all costs and prices have got to be levelled out and tax and social services systems in the various countries of Europe must be harmonised. But for some reason agriculture was chosen as the point of departure.

Why? God only knows! Perhaps the French who have so far had the greatest benefit of this system were well aware that they were up to. The Federal Republic representatives certainly were not.

In January 1962 the Council of Ministers passed six decrees for the gradual introduction of communal market regulations. In the course of the next few years these came into force and since 1967 there has been a system of minimum prices for the whole area of the European Economic Community and uniform powers of intervention.

There is an incredibly complicated system of fixed prices, basic prices, price-thresholds, intervention prices and orientation prices. There are price adjustments and supplementary price adjustments as well as licences. Assistance on a national footing and subsidies from individual countries are no longer permitted.

Since farming like other sectors of the economy only offers an opportunity for progress as long as productivity rises EEC agricultural policy has concentrated on forcing uneconomic holdings into bankruptcy.

This was done on a grand scale. Each year 100,000 farm workers in the Federal Republic were forced to leave the land and seek employment elsewhere. In 1970 the figure was as high as 150,000. In the past twenty years one third of the farms in operation in 1950 have been given up and two-thirds of farm workers (2.1 million) have left for other jobs.

There are reasonable grounds for doubt whether this process of selectivity has given the optimum results. The most efficient farmers followed advice and made their holdings more specialised with large-scale investments. A number of them are now having to pay back huge sums in interest and are going broke, whereas those who carried on in the same style as their grandfathers before them have to a large extent avoided the crunch.

This painful process of "healthy shrink-

ing" could only be fobbed off on farm and farm workers who are used to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. If the authorities had the same tactics on factory workers they might not have survived to tell the tale.

In Brussels it was possible to come to an agreement on a prices policy and prices that were fixed in 1968 simply not been altered while expenses and overheads have rocketed nationally.

It is a consolation that this government has at least worked on social measures in this process of stagnation because with the whims of fashion change and has not just left things to their own course. In 1969 farmers were compensated for leaving the land by the introduction of assistance was offered to farmers who were quitting to learn a trade and now for the first time compulsory sickness insurance is being introduced for farmers and their dependents.

For years the Federal Republic has to bear the main burden of this integration. Agricultural policy and unjustly so, the overproduction which does the country's fault but to a great extent other five's.

Foolish system

The absurd system of a unified monetary policy has led to a kind of inflation following France's devaluation and revaluation with France's supply flooding into this country.

Thus our butter mountain grew, cheap French butter ousted ours from the market. Finally in 1970 the subsidy was paid for the slaughter of 150,000 milchcows were killed off the country while the other five EEC members only disposed of 84,000 and them, and The Netherlands even reduced its herds by two per cent.

Similarly with pigs. In a week ten per cent of all pork sold in this country came from Belgium and The Netherlands while farmers in Holstein have been trying for months to sell their pigs.

What can be done in this situation? This despairing question was answered recently by an expert at agricultural hearing in Bonn. He said the nonsensical aspects must be "abolished". Perhaps he should have added the potential gains should be maximised. That is to say we must now demand of our partners in the EEC firm agreements on the currency union. If they do not approve of this the system of "gold dollars" must be abolished and what more as quickly as possible.

Countess Marton Dönhof
(DIE ZEIT, 5 March 1971)

Bitter harvest for farmers



This year it has been said more clearly than ever before, where agriculture is heading for. In the agricultural report and a hearing lasting several days it was stated without beating about the bush that the amount of money that could be made on the land in ten years time would only be enough to give one million or at the most 1.1 million farmers a decent living.

Today there are still twice as many as this employed in the agricultural sector of the economy. Their incomes have fallen behind those of other professions. With

improvements to the structure of the industry half as many people could be up the level of agricultural production.

No group of people likes to hear that is fifty per cent superfluous and farmers are no exception to the rule. The Farmer's Association has a different formula for giving the 2.2 million farmers a living wage — higher prices!

But repeating and repeating this demand does not make the idea any more realistic. Energy and money must be spent on teaching farmer's sons another trade, while smallholdings must in future be considered sources of extra income but not a means of earning a living wage. No lasting solution to the agricultural problem will be provided by higher prices.

(Handelsblatt, 26 February 1971)

BUSINESS

Rag trade needs courage to face fierce competition

All the all-important battle between hot pants and maxi-skirts soon will be fought for the textile industry to a decisive conclusion? It is because with the whims of fashion change and has not just left things to their own course. In 1969 farmers were compensated for leaving the land by the introduction of assistance was offered to farmers who were quitting to learn a trade and now for the first time compulsory sickness insurance is being introduced for farmers and their dependents.

On the other hand this might just have been an intermediate spurt in coming orders which is not rare in the textile industry.

More information is necessary for a clear view of the way ahead. The amount of material at present in stock has to be known and accurate assessments of this are not on hand at present.

Textile fairs in Frankfurt and now in Cologne have been somewhat encouraging and, despite the rather tame end-of-winter sales, trading in January and probably in February too has been brisker.

Nevertheless a question mark hangs over the industry and this will not clear off till well into the spring. At that time the clothes-buying public will make important decisions.

The patterns set by the Igedo fair in Düsseldorf may at least give some guide to the future.

But the attitudes that can be expected from the general public, the consumers, are not yet clear. Will gross incomes rise by the predicted ten per cent? And will the rag trade be spared a recession even in the second half of the year or will the public be cautious and save their money?

All these doubts must be cleared up before the favourable estimates for the future of the textiles industry come true. It has been predicted that this year there could be an increase in turnover in the rag trade of between five and seven per cent.

In 1970 the nominal increase was four per cent. But last year the wholesale prices of textiles increased by only 1.5 per cent, which did not please nor help the manufacturers who were plagued with rising overheads.

And there does not seem to be any indication at the moment that the pressure on prices which arises from keener competition in the Federal Republic and other countries that export to this country will be alleviated to any great extent.

This pressure on prices is also caused by the tendency of the rag trade to deal in price thresholds, that is to say, to take the attitude that suits for everyday wear should not cost more than a specified sum. As manufacturing costs rise prices are not pushed up but every attempt is made to keep products at the "threshold" price.

All in all the price barriers for the textile industry should be high enough for the estimate of nominal turnover to have some real value.

The dreadful gap between overheads and yield has without doubt put many a textile company in the red. But since the possible way out of increased prices now seems to be barred the only alternative is to make economies. In many cases this unfortunately involves cutting investments.

Such impositions hit the rag trade hard, since in the past it has managed to keep pace with the rapid progress of technology and with an exemplary increase in

productivity has managed for the most part to offset the fact that wages are lower and production costs cheaper in other countries.

Precisely this rise in productivity has been an essential factor for the rag trade facing the future boldly and not losing courage. In the machinery industry for instance there are gloomy comments because the textile industry is their second-best customer and the rag trade's need to introduce economies is a bad sign.

A glance at commerce and trade in the future would bring two problem sectors to the attention which are closely allied. The more integration in the European Economic Community progresses the more it is essential to introduce a uniform importation policy for the textile industry.

It is well known that other countries in the EEC have found ways of protecting themselves against imports at cut prices. As a result of this there has for some years been a tendency for other EEC countries to aim their cheap clothing at the Federal Republic.

France has even erected barriers against the re-exportation of such goods from the Federal Republic in order to protect its own rag trade from a potential viable competitor.

Manufacturers in this country are of course not happy about this and have spoken out in favour of "sharing the burden equally throughout the EEC", the calculations of this being based for instance on populations of the various EEC countries. A regulation of this kind has a chance of success in Brussels.

However, there is no move in Brussels, as in other industrial countries, for the rag trade to make exceptions on customs preferences for developing countries which would also cause a drain of items kept cheap by low wage bills into the EEC.

Aid by means of customs tariffs should at least be differentiated according to clothing manufacturers in the European Economic Community. A distinction should be made between suppliers that could come out in competition, such as Hong Kong, and other overseas countries whose textile and clothing industries need a helping hand.

This would also be to the benefit of the developing countries themselves. The closer we come to an "equal share of the burden" among the Common Market countries the more distinct the protective measures in Italy and France are shown up.

There seems to be a chance for the suggestions made in Brussels to introduce rationalisation and conversion subsidies making them conform to the Treaty of Rome by dubbing them as "furtherance of compatibility". Even if public funds of this kind are used in this manner the Federal Republic rag trade will be left behind again since it scarcely reckoned with such subsidies.

Furthermore experience has shown us that there is a danger that these funds would flow back into the tide of productivity and just contribute to the falsification of competitiveness.

And finally on the question of sharing the burden of cheap imports there is the round of discussions of the EEC Commission with the United States on the possibility of taking over a certain amount of Japanese exports that are shut out of America.

On this score too it is an important point to note whether a flood of cheap goods will be hitting the EEC as a whole

or whether it will be concentrated on the Federal Republic.

From the point of view of trading policies it can be seen that the "environmental conditions" of the textile industry cannot be mastered simply. This is all the more reason for companies to seek the optimum solution both in investments in equipment and in their size. Both of these spheres obviously overlap.

The fact that technical equipment in this country is among the best in the world is not only recognised by observers abroad time again but is highlighted by the massive increase in productivity in recent years.

Developments are still being made and new processes introduced. This involves further automation and decidedly larger companies, particularly in the manufacturing of raw materials and production of staple commodities. Cotton spinners and weavers will have to come to terms with the necessity for structural changes.

There is some doubt whether there will be a general trend in the rag trade towards a few, multinational extremely powerful textile concerns and whether this must happen, as Dr Peter Adolff mooted recently.

Large companies have an advantage in the buying department, there possibilities for financing themselves and influencing the market, and particularly all the advantages of mass production. Smaller companies are more flexible in adjusting to fashions, which are a protection against imported competition and they can guarantee fast delivery and exploit niches in the market.

It seems probable that the fewer-and-larger process of the past few years will continue and perhaps accelerate. Since 1965 the number of textile companies has decreased from 4,096 to 3,615. In 1970 alone ninety companies closed down, but in 1968 it was as many as 169. Future developments are likely to bring problems affecting smaller textile companies greatly, but not the middle sized concerns with 300 to 800 employees and a turnover of between 30 and 50 million Marks which have in the past few years proved to be the most viable.

Even the major textile concerns are not protected from the difficulties of this branch, not even if they have a say in the retail trade.

Wolfram Zürlig
(Handelsblatt, 1 March 1971)

International trade fair in Frankfurt

A grill that can be operated by burning old newspapers and which will cook sausages and steaks crispy and brown in minutes is one of the many brilliant innovations at the International Frankfurt Fair, which opened recently and is aimed to attract businessmen from all over the world.

There are no less than 2,628 exhibitors including 685 foreign firms from thirty-six different countries at Frankfurt to show off their produce for the consumer market.

This grill, which can be folded away so small that it would fit into a briefcase and taken to any picnic site, is far from being the only sensation in Frankfurt.

There is also the fold-away mini-hat which can be kept in jacket or trousers pockets and brought out when the wind and rains come.

The "table in your pocket" is not only meant to intrigue conjurers, but also people who have little space to spare. This table can be packed away in a small case and when needed can be set up by just a few simple movements.

Now windows and shoes can be polished with thousand-Mark notes — an inventive importer is offering a "fully washable and fluff-free cloth" carrying the design of a thousand-Mark note, but this will not help the housewife balance her budget;

Most people put it away for a rainy day

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Putting it away for a rainy day, is the reason given by most people in this country for saving money, according to a survey conducted by the Federal Statistics Office. People were asked what were their motives for saving money, their aims in saving it and their preferences in forms of saving.

The second most common reason for saving is to have money for old age. Third, fourth and fifth places are taken up by more specific aims such as for a holiday, to acquire furniture, consumer goods or jewellery and to buy a house or a plot of land.

These were all suggestions put forward by the survey organisers, but many of those questioned declared that none of them was the reason for their saving. Many simply said that they saved because they had more money than they needed to run the home.

Only a very few said they were building up a big bank balance for motives of pride or personal gain.

The Statistics Office survey showed that to a large extent the sort of answers given to the question why people saved depended on their position in society the age of the head of the household and how high the average income in the household was, as well as the type of accommodation.

A further question asked in this survey was how much people would save if their income were increased by ten per cent. Sixty out of a hundred families said they would save some or all of this money. Of those who spoke of savings 41 per cent said they would save the whole ten per cent, 43 per cent said they would save a half to three-quarters and only sixteen per cent could save about one quarter.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 March 1971)

the note is only printed on one side and the cloth is at 29 x 45 centimetres oversized, so not even the most shortsighted shopkeeper would accept it!

Candle wicks always had the irritating habit of breaking off or becoming too long, but now an inventive Rhinelanders has come up with the first adjustable candle. The wick can be regulated giving a flame of a different height just like a cigarette lighter.

Anyone who thinks that the last word has been said in the line of ballpens is mistaken. The pens that were used by the humankind are now to be put on the open market and are expected to be a big hit. This ballpen, we are promised, goes on writing whatever the temperature, under-water and upside down.

Carrying nets for Bonzo and Fido are also on show. These are strong and cannot be torn by canine teeth. They are guaranteed to transport dogs safely and comfortably.

If anyone fancies these articles but does not fancy having to pay for them he had better watch out! Light-fingered visitors to supermarkets are bound to be caught. A new rotating watching-eye is also on show and with its exchangeable lenses and six mirrors it can scan the furthest corner of a supermarket and produce crystal-clear pictures.

A. Bechtold
(Münchener Merkur, 27 February 1971)

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■ TECHNOLOGY

Cabin taxis - a future means of transport

Six to eight metres overhead the cabin taxi, cat for short, glides noiselessly through the streets of the dormitory suburb along concrete track.

Every 300 metres or so there is a stop, a small siding. At the stop there is a machine the size of a cigarette machine. You put your money in and out comes a kind of cheque card with instructions in electromagnetic lettering.

There is also a button. When you press it a three-seater plastic cab 1.50 metres wide draws up. As soon as the card has been placed in the slot provided the sliding doors of the cab open.

The card having programmed the cab all that the passengers need to do is to press the button inside the cab and off it zooms in the direction of the programmed destination.

Everything is fully automatic. There are no conductors, no one except the occasional inspector to explain the secrets of this newfangled mode of transport to old ladies and help younger ones stow away prams and the like.

Powered by electric motors the cabs drives without stopping to the programmed destination. There are no stops and there is no changing. The destination is electronically checked at every stop until the right one is reached.

Having made its way from start to finish at a speed of thirty kilometres an hour (roughly 20 mph), as against the fifteen that trams and buses at best manage nowadays, the cab pulls into the siding and waits for the next call on its services.

Since everything is fully automatic the cabin taxi runs day and night seven days a week.



An artist's impression of cabin taxis in use.

Safe travel to and from the Moon would seem, however, to be a more likely proposition than a solution to local transport problems. As the roads have long been congested most of the day the answer must be to use other levels and go either above or below ground.

An Underground costs roughly forty million Marks a kilometre to build, though, and is consequently only an economic proposition in cities with a population of several hundred thousand.

Other solutions to the problem must be found for medium-sized towns and for commuters between dormitory suburbs and the city. Computerised cabs are the answer, their inventors and R & D men feel.

Not far away from Wuppertal, the conglomeration of towns along a tributary of the Ruhr where seventy years ago the first monorail was built (and despite its defects is still a mainstay of public transport in the city and not just a tourist attraction), the first pilot project for cabin taxis is under development.

Far from discouraged by the more or less unsuccessful Alweg monorail project

undertaken by Krupp's in Cologne, Demag and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm are building a 700-metre elliptical trial section of cabin taxi track at Wetter on the Ruhr.

It is scheduled for completion by the end of 1972 and over the following eighteen months the engineers in Wetter and Ottobrunn, near Munich, hope to gain sufficient experience to launch cabin taxi networks in Freiburg and the Munich suburb of Perlach.

The technical problems of the project, developed separately in Wetter and Ottobrunn in 1969 and merged last year at the behest of the Federal Ministry of Transport, seem by and large to have been solved.

The remaining snags, and they are not inconsiderable, are more or less organisational but are, of course, closely linked with running-costs and thus with the fares that will have to be charged.

The yardstick of any transport system is the success it has in coping with morning and afternoon rush-hour traffic. If a single passenger were to occupy every cab because of the length of time before

two or three passengers with the destination materialised the system would not be able to cope with rush-hour traffic despite a theoretical capacity of cabs per track per hour.

The research team in Wetter and Ottobrunn every flight going, we show two in terms of a fare of thirty kilometres. If someone travels more than a kilometre and from work to home or an Academy Award winner.

he would be spending three Marks on fares.

If, to crown it all, cabs were third full during the rush hour, it would be no better than it is now.

The pilot scheme in Wetter is a four to five million Marks, a money that the firms concerned doubt raise themselves.

Were Freiburg city council to favour of covering the 10.5 km between the city centre and dormitory suburb of Landwasser under construction, by cabin taxi would have to invest somewhere in the region of fifty million marks.

With 217 cabs on each track they could convey ten million passengers a year but fifty million Marks, a full-scale experiment is a lot of money and probably too much for the resources.

Yet if the Federal government allocate far larger sums of money to the development of new transport, for instance - there might be cash available for public transport problems, which are definitely more important than the prospect of losing half an hour off the flight time to Düsseldorf and Munich.

Opinions now differ as to whether thought of the cabway idea. Demag engineer Hugo Heidt patented something similar in autumn 1967 and offered his services to the Ministry of Transport and Science from 1957.

Now that Bölkow and Demag disclosed details of the work on they have been engaged since 1967 to propose to build a pilot project, Heidt feels he has been robbed of his idea.

At Cologne's administrative court instituted proceedings against Transport Minister Leber and Science Minister Leussink for affording the major preferential treatment.

Heidt, Bölkow comment, is known as a serious and reliable man but proposes this kind are under development everywhere and the work can be carried out by large firms. So far has merely been discussion of the possibility of a government grant to the cost of building the pilot track.

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The Bundespost introduces letter sorting by computer

machine which by means of unerring electronic eyes reads the code and guides the letter through a maze of belts. A process computer that masters the whole operation ensures with stoic unconcern that a 'love letter' from Osnabrück finds its way to the Munich pigeonhole in a matter of seconds.

At a cost of several million Marks the Osnabrück unit does the work of forty to fifty sorters. Five smaller offices have been the first to benefit from the new equipment for two reasons:

— the post office buildings have been ideally suited for housing the unit — and any technical hitches that occur will not create as much havoc as they would in really large sorting offices.

It will be some time before Hanover, Berlin, on the other hand, is at the top of the list — largely for political reasons.

The people of Osnabrück indeed owe it to Berlin that they are the first to use twin pillar boxes. The sorting unit can be used more rationally if local letters are pre-sorted. They can be dealt with later.

Berlin has a considerable amount of local post (almost seventy per cent of the total) and was a little sceptical as to whether the general public would pay any attention to the two slots.

So Osnabrück, it was decided, would be the guinea pig. Results are satisfactory. Only three or four per cent of letters posted are put in the wrong part of the box.

Coding is the most intriguing feature of the whole procedure and also the point at which further automation might prove possible. Addresses cannot as yet be deciphered by machine. There are enough handwritten addresses that even the practised eye can hardly decipher. But the Post Office is working on the idea.

In five to ten years' time, the pundits reckon, the new coding devices will be on the scrap heap, superseded by electronic reading devices that are already under development.

Standardisation — of envelope weights, for instance — will of course be essential and the Post Office may have to introduce standard envelopes on which letter-writers tick boxes rather than write their own addresses.

This country is now one of the world's leaders in automated sorting. Elsewhere units have been installed only in the United States and a number of Italian cities.

One unit has been supplied from this country to the Soviet Union and has disappeared behind the Iron Curtain. Stamp collectors do say, though, that coded letters from the Soviet Union have been sighted.

With all this progress the Post Office has yet to abolish one familiar figure of everyday folklore, though. Not does it want to. The postman on his daily round will be with us for some time to come.

Hans-Uwe Härtel (Hessische Allgemeine, 27 February 1971)

With labour in short supply the Bundespost have no alternative but to resort increasingly to automation. Sorting is one of the operations that are gradually to be automated.

Sorting only interests the man in the street when letters are delayed but in point of fact it is one of the trouble spots of the entire postal system.

Some thirty million letters a day are posted and have to be distributed to 24,000 localities. The work load is not spread evenly throughout the day; it overflows between five and nine in the evening and three and six in the morning.

This bottleneck is growing steadily worse, largely because sorting into bundles for transport by rail or air is an operation that is still carried out by an army of operatives as in days gone by.

The destination is first roughed out according to the postal code number, then narrowed down as it passes through more and more hands before finally landing in the right pigeonhole.

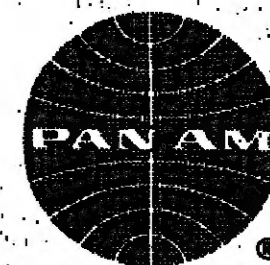
The Post Office now has the answer. In June or July two automatic sorting units capable of handling nearly 50,000 letters an hour without the aid of the human hand will start work in Osnabrück.

Similar devices have been tested and put to use over the last five years at post offices in Pforzheim, Wiesbaden, Bochum and Brunswick. Osnabrück's is, of course, the most up-to-the-minute technically.

Incoming and outgoing post first is assembled at fifteen coding counters where specially trained operatives type out strange codes — five vertical yellow lines, for instance — on each letter.

On outgoing post the code represents the postal code number, on incoming post letters of the street name.

The letter then passes into the sorting



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■ OUR WORLD

Career women find it hard going to compete with men

Handelsblatt
The German newspaper

What is admired in men is frowned upon if women try to do it. A man who carves out a career for himself is generally thought of as a man of stature. But it is not so easy to say the same of a woman, unless she is in showbusiness, pursues one of the specifically female professions or is a woman who has reached the stature of, for example, Health Minister Käthe Strobel. Logical thinking, qualities of leadership, application, creativity and business sense are all decried in women.

There are at the present 25,000 in this country operating businesses that employ more than ten workers and with an annual turnover exceeding one million Marks, according to a 1969 needlework industry report. Needlework is the most favoured leisuretime occupation of women in this country. Women's magazines, television and advertising all go on about a better world in which women are mainly concerned with the kitchen, the church and the children.

With women being devoted to these three aspects it is something of a wonder that 1.9 per cent of all positions of leadership are held down by women. But there are limits. There are hardly any women in this country who earn as employees of a firm more than 40,000 Marks annually.

Women have mainly broken into two departments in business and industry that have been men's preserves — personnel and finance departments, and then only to the extent of seven per cent. There are on occasions women who work as assistant directors. To make the situation clearer it must be added that the jobs in question are ones where supply is greater than demand. There are chances only in professions suffering from staff shortages. And this fact must be considered together with the fact that there are more women than men in this country.

Women in executive positions in this country earn 8,000 Marks less on average than their male colleagues. Without question the same job is paid at a different rate and men have a better chance of promotion. For women, speaking in the main, there are limitations as to how far they can climb the ladder.

Unlike in America there are no women in the Federal Republic sitting on the governing boards of companies and only a few sitting on the boards of directors. Dr. Lore Henkel, a member of the Prussian board, said in an interview: "One has to do one's best not only in the big things but also in small matters."

Women are looked upon critically. Qualifications alone are not enough. Taat is required to make oneself heard. Liz Hiller, an editor in the almost totally male-staffed magazine *Eltern*, commented: "One has to have studied at least seven semesters of psychology and four of law so as not to be pushed aside by men."

Women have a difficult time of it. But it is also true that they are not career conscious. Why is that? Opinion polls taken all over the country among men and women show that it is the commonly held view that politics and the economic field are spheres in which men operate exclusively.

A quote from Friedrich Schiller comes to mind: "The man goes out into the

cruel world... and the tender woman holds sway at home. The attitude of the male to the female, confirmed for centuries by the Church and by the State, is applicable to the world of work also. Arthur Schopenhauer's definition of women as 'the second sex' is just as apposite today. The question is no longer asked if the woman is a human being. What a long way we have come."

A woman is holding down every third job in this country. Without exception they are paid less than a man doing the same job. In 1968 the Confederation of Trade Unions in this country carried out a survey and discovered that 36 per cent of women are the main family breadwinner.

Women do not yet comprehend fully what power they represent — that of a labour force or a consumer market. Until this confusion is cleared away women will be at a disadvantage. One thing is sure — in firms and concerns where a majority of women are employed only a few men are ever voted on to the workers' council.

In connection with these observations it is worth pointing out that only 28 per cent of women complain about their neglect. Women resist doing this.

If a close look is taken of public services, the trade unions or even central government isolated concentrations of women in top jobs are encountered. Examples of this are Dr. Katharina Focke, a State Secretary who has had a lightning career to the top, and State Secretary Hildegard Hanlin-Brücker, who has proven the former Health Minister Dr. Elisabeth Schwarzhaupt right. She said that women had to work twice as hard as men in order to get half as far.

Total involvement, making provisions for a career are not expected from women, and when encountered are decried on all sides. Remarks such as "outen away with ambition", or "blue stocking", or "no man wants her" are commonly heard.

Women could contribute a great deal to the economy of this country. In 1954 more than 1,200 businesswomen formed an association to look after their interests.

Jasmin, the twice monthly magazine for married couples, seized upon this topic gratefully. The magazine wrote about Sigrid Kressmann, who has carved a career for herself as an architect in Berlin: "Her big grey eyes gaze happily into a future peopled with women who are all like Sigrid Kressmann herself — hard-working, good looking, aware and self-reliant."

Limited report

But the magazine report turned out to be little more than a fashionable, chic feuilleton. Social welfare policies and social aspects were completely ignored. Moreover it has not been possible for women industrialists and career girls to carve out an image for themselves in the face of their male colleagues.

Few would be better qualified than the businesswomen in this organisation to make women who take an active part in society socially acceptable.

Nevertheless there is a danger that this association for leading women in business, commerce and industry will become a kind of nature conservation area and finally nothing more than a

ghetto for women managers. Many of the women who belong to this association have been forced to take over a company when their husband died.

This association for women industrialists could prove to be very useful in breaking down bias and prejudices. For instance it could help to do away with the wide-spread fear held by many men of having to work as a subordinate to a woman in a managerial position.

There is no known case history where men have not been able to work satisfactorily and efficiently with a woman manager handing out the orders in their department.

Quite the contrary in fact. Women at a managerial level often prove to have the essential qualities for their post. In many cases they are superior diplomats to men and they are able to treat their team, from executive down to the man on the factory floor with utmost tact and consideration and thereby encourage all who work under them to greater productivity and achievements than a male manager would be able.

In what has been to date the only investigation carried out by the social research department at Münster University Helmut Hartmann has come to the conclusion that the woman who is big white chief of a factory and hands out orders to men in subordinate positions is known to the general public as "Unternehmerin" (a female industrialist) and is considered quite a phenomenon. She appears to many to be rather more like a phantom.

Political complaint

In the Federal state of Baden-Württemberg women in the Social Democratic Party have formed themselves into a united front against their male party colleagues.

They have been protesting that of the 327 deputies in the Baden-Württemberg provincial assembly only two are of the fairer sex. But at least 15 women had sufficient qualifications to be considered as members of the Bundestag for the Social Democrats.

Nor is it likely that the Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats have fewer emancipated women with all the characteristics and qualities necessary to represent their party in the provincial assembly.

Women have begun to storm the Bastille and men are fearing for their domain. Probably women are denting men's vanity if they are too hardworking and strive for high positions.

It is considered that a suitable career for women today is still to rise from shorthand typist to secretary or from salesgirl to head of department. The decision that women have to take on a job such as this is scarcely different from those they take by heart and home. "Still we have pork chops tonight or lamb?"

Surveys taken among girls studying for *Abitur* have shown that they have a somewhat simpler idea of their future career. One thing they all have in common is that they want their job to be enjoyable. And they all want to carve out a career for themselves.

Karin Krüger

(Handelsblatt, 26 February 1971)



Dr. Paula Maeder

Association formed to present the women's point of view

Dr. Paula Maeder is 54 years old, has studied education, psychology and is today head of the personnel department of a company employing 3,000 people. She belongs to the Lower Saxony Free Democrats and is at the time the state Chairman of the Republic Confederation of Academics. Recently this attractive woman made a name for herself in a new way. She is now Chairman of the Saxony state Women's Council, an official mouthpiece for 24 associations.

It includes DAG, Deutsche Angestellten-Gewerkschaft, the white-collar union and the DGB, Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund, the Confederation of Federal Republic Trade Unions, the associations, the Red Cross in Saxony and the Society of Jewish men. These organisations are all concerned that women should be represented in public life.

Despite all this official activity Maeder is no suffragette. The Free Democrats of Lower Saxony, the former Finance Minister, Alfried Krug, is known to be a candidate when it comes to spending money. She persuaded him to dig into his pocket and give her 10,000 Marks for starting offering to make him the patron of new Women's Council. Then she got down to business.

She said: "Women, now 35, left and entered a society that paid little to them. We want to do away with traditional attitude. We also want to make known in the corridors of the Bundestag that it is about time was an end to inequality between sexes, a proposition anchored in Basic Law."

The Women's Council in Lower Saxony is not the first institution to women's influence and voice in opinions. There are similar councils in seven other states of the Federal Republic. A Federal women's council has been operating in Bad Godesberg since 1968.

These councils are concerned to the female view and "to show the burdens of our society". This extends from home building and plans for homes — the kitchen and rooms — to problems of space, and control of children, a personnel advisory council for women and on how to help yourself for all women's rights in divorce. The purpose of all small towns and communities should have a centre where women obtain advice. Karl-Heinz Kühn

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 February 1971)

SPORT

Ice-skating reaches an all-time low

This is the first and last time that has happened, this country's disappointed skaters vowed on returning from the United States in 1969. The Colorado Springs world champion came last and last but one in men's singles. Never before in the history of world championships had German skaters done so badly.

And then it was decided to start from scratch. Grants were demanded and provided. The appointment of a coach was agreed and work on and promising youngsters heralded. Three years after this major reshuffle world championships were again held, this time in Lyons, France. Yet our man Garmisch not only came third from last, he is also the same Klaus Grimmelt who came last at Colorado Springs in 1969.

There could hardly be a more convincing demonstration of the bottomless pit into which ice-skating in this country has fallen, of the three years of beauty sleep company employing 3,000 people belongs to the Lower Saxony Free Democrats and is at the time the state Chairman of the Republic Confederation of Academics.

World ice-skating champions

Women
1. Beatrix Schuba, Austria
2. Julie Holmes, USA
3. Karen Magnusson, Canada

Men
1. Ondrej Nepela, Czechoslovakia
2. Patrick Péra, France
3. Sergei Chetverukhin, USSR

Pairs
1. Rodnina/Ulanov, USSR
2. Smirnova/Zurabkin, USSR
3. Starbuck/Shelley, USA

Dances
1. Pachamova/Gorshkov, USSR
2. Buck/Buck, Federal Republic
3. Schwomsy/Sladky, USA

Brother and sister Angelika and Erich Buck may have won a silver medal at Lyons and Almut Lehmann and Herbert Wiesinger may have come fifth but as regards the Bucks dancing has yet to become an Olympic discipline and Lehmann and Wiesinger looked very much as though they are more likely to come fourth than fourth next time.

Either way, both pairs are retiring next winter, which will put the cat among the pigeons. This country will then once and for all be relegated to an also-ran rating.

At least talented youngsters from the East are living up to German ice-skating traditions. Fifteen-year-old Sonja Morgenstern of Karl-Marx-Stadt has already become this year's main star, first at the European championships in Zürich, then a few weeks later at Lyons.

Her tour de force on both occasions has been the treble salchow. She is the first ever to achieve the feat. Fifteen-year-old fellow-countryman Jan Hoffmann has also made a name for himself by joining her with a quadruple salchow, spinning four times round his own longitudinal axis. This too will be a world first on ice-skates.

In view of the success of Gaby Seyfert,

now retired, the powers that be in the GDR have set up an ice-skating kindergarten that now has more than one figure-skating youngster with the talent of a Sonja Morgenstern or a Jan Hoffmann at the ready.

This, then, is the starting-point from which a solution to the dilemma in this country could be found. For far too long, until the mid-sixties, ice-skaters basked indolently in the bright light radiated by aces Manfred Schnelldorfer and Marika Killius and Hans-Jürgen Bäumler.

This accusation is levelled both at the association and at its coaches. There is, for instance, reason to wonder whether Federal trainer Erich Zeller of Garmisch really uses the latest coaching methods.

Zeller owes his fame and reputation largely to the success of his proteges Marika Killius and Hans-Jürgen Bäumler yet at the time the couple derived no end of benefit from the wealth of ideas of ambitious Marika.

To this day Zeller pupils are influenced to no small extent by either their own ideas or the advice of friends. Judith Bayer, runner-up in the women's championships, had her figure-skating programme drawn up by pair skater Herbert Wiesinger.

National coach Erich Zeller merely acted in a coordinatory capacity, much as he had done with Killius and Bäumler years ago. He does not have a great deal to contribute in the way of new and original ideas.

Fellow-coach Walter Hofer of Füssen, who invariably creates the impression of being plucked at not having been appointed national trainer himself, is so behind the times even that he maintains talent can only be developed by training on the ice. He considers any other kind of compensatory training to be no use at all.

Other countries are streets ahead. The Russians, with both world championship pair events to their credit, have systematically developed the work and ideas of several-time world champions and Olympic gold medalists Belusova and Protopopov.

In its tireless efforts to make the old recipe work again and produce a new Schnelldorfer or Killius and Bäumler this country has forgotten to keep an eye on international developments — and new yardsticks have long since been established.

In the Federal Republic officials, talent scouts and coaches kept to the beaten tracks of the golden fifties and sixties with the inevitable outcome that try as they might nothing came of their endeavours.

The officials are unable to put the coaches in the picture because they are, for the most part, laymen when it comes to technique and any case have more than enough trouble sorting out squabbles in their own ranks.

Many a reasonable reform proposal has come to grief as a result of internal dissension, for instance the suggestion that in future not every champion be



Angelika and Erich Buck came second at the world ice-skating championships held in Lyons (Photo: Nordbild)

allowed to take part in expensive international events at the association's expense.

As soon as there is any suggestion that the champion in such and such a discipline is not worth sending to wherever it is, the officials of his section of the association raise Cain and threaten to unseat the executive in the next elections.

The situation in ice-skating in this country would be absolutely without a silver lining were it not for the work clubs are putting in on youngsters. The mid-January national championships in Berlin held forth the promise of better things to come from about 1975 onwards.

In comparison the standards of senior skaters are so poor that this country might as well throw in the towel until 1975. Viewers are, of course, occasionally reminded that it still can be done — but, alas, only by the others at present.

Wolfgang Uhrig

(DIE ZEIT, 5 March 1971)

Olympics staff worries

Munich's Olympic organisation committee is worried about how it is to find the 27,000-odd staff that will be needed between 15 August and 11 September 1972, a fair number of whom must be able to speak foreign languages.

The problem of multilingual hostesses has been solved: 1,200 were needed, 4,000 applied. But there have been far too few applications for many of the other jobs so far.

These include 260 foreign-language speakers to chaperone the teams, 220 wardens for the Olympic village and 160 female wardens for the women's quarters, not to mention telephonists and typists. About 1,000 messengers, 500 ticket collectors and 2,000 members of cleaning squads have also yet to be enrolled.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Nr. Deutschland, 2 March 1971)

One in four wants to see Olympics

One person in four in this country would like to see the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, according to a survey recently published by the Institute of Applied Social Research (Infas).

Nine per cent of the sample of more than 1,000 people over eighteen in the Federal Republic excluding West Berlin stated that they definitely intend seeing the Olympics for themselves on the spot. A further eighteen per cent said they would like to be present.

Special interest is shown by men, people of younger age groups and members of sports clubs. There were considerable regional differences, though. Fifty per cent of Bavarians plan to attend the Olympics in their state capital as against only 23 per cent over the rest of the country.

The survey reveals that the problem of accommodation is already stopping many people from definitely thinking in terms of going to Munich for next year's Olympics. Only one in three have made up their minds, the remainder will be going "touch wood."

Some 27,000 staff will be needed from 15 August to 11 September for work in the Olympic village, the press quarters, centres and the individual sports facilities. A number of them, for instance the 260 hosts seconded to the various teams, must speak foreign languages.

There will also be 260 wardens at the men's quarters in the Olympic village and 160 female wardens for the women. There will be 1,000 usherettes in the stadiums, not to mention telephonists and typists. About 1,000 messengers, 500 ticket collectors and 2,000 members of cleaning squads have also yet to be enrolled.

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 3 March 1971)

SA 0.05	Colombia	col. 1.1	Formosa	NT 5.5	Indonesia	Rp. 15.00	Malawi	Mal. 11.0	Paraguay	Gu. 15.00	Sudan	FT 1.00
AI 10.00	Congo (Brazzaville)	col. 1.1	France	FF 0.50	Iran	RI 10.00	Mali	M. 11.0	Peru	S. 2.50	Syria	S. 2.50
DA 0.50	Congo (Kinshasa)	col. 1.1	Gabon	G. 1.00	Iraq	PI 0.50	Mexico	M. 1.00	Philippines	Phil. 0.50	Tanzania	T. 0.50
Rac. 1.00	Cuba	col. 1.1	Gambia	G. 1.00	Ireland	IR 0.50	Morocco	M. 1.00	Poland	Pol. 0.50	Thailand	Th. 0.50
10.00	Cyprus	col. 1.1	Germany	DM 1.00	Israel	IL 0.50	Mozambique	M. 1.00	Portugal	Port. 0.50	Trinidad and Tobago	T. 0.50
10.00	Czechoslovakia	col. 1.1	Ghana	G. 1.00	Italy	It. 0.50	Nepal	N. 1.00	Rhodesia	R. 0.50	USA	US\$ 1.00
10.00	Dominican Rep.	col. 1.1	Guatemala	G. 1.00	Japan	Yen 50	Netherlands	N. 0.50	Romania	R. 0.50	USSR	US\$ 1.00
10.00	Ecuador	col. 1.1	Honduras	H. 0.50	Jamaica	J. 0.50	Netherlands Antilles	N. 0.50	Russia	R. 0.50	Yugoslavia	Y. 0.50
10.00	El Salvador	col. 1.1	Hong Kong	HK 0.50	Kenya	K. 0.50	Nicaragua	N. 0.50	South Africa	S. 0.50	Zambia	Z. 0.50
10.00	Finland	col. 1.1	Hungary	H. 0.50	Laos	L. 0.50	New Zealand	N. 0.50	South Korea	S. 0.50		
10.00	France	col. 1.1	India	Rs 0.50	Lebanon	L. 0.50	Nigeria	N. 0.50	Taiwan	T. 0.50		
10.00	Germany	col. 1.1	Indonesia	Rp. 15.00	Liberia	L. 0.50	Norway	N. 0.50	Thailand	Th. 0.50		
10.00	Ghana	col. 1.1	Iran	RI 10.00	Madagascar	M. 0.50	Pakistan	P. 0.50	Trinidad and Tobago	T. 0.50		
10.00	Greece	col. 1.1	Iraq	PI 0.50			Panama	P. 0.50				